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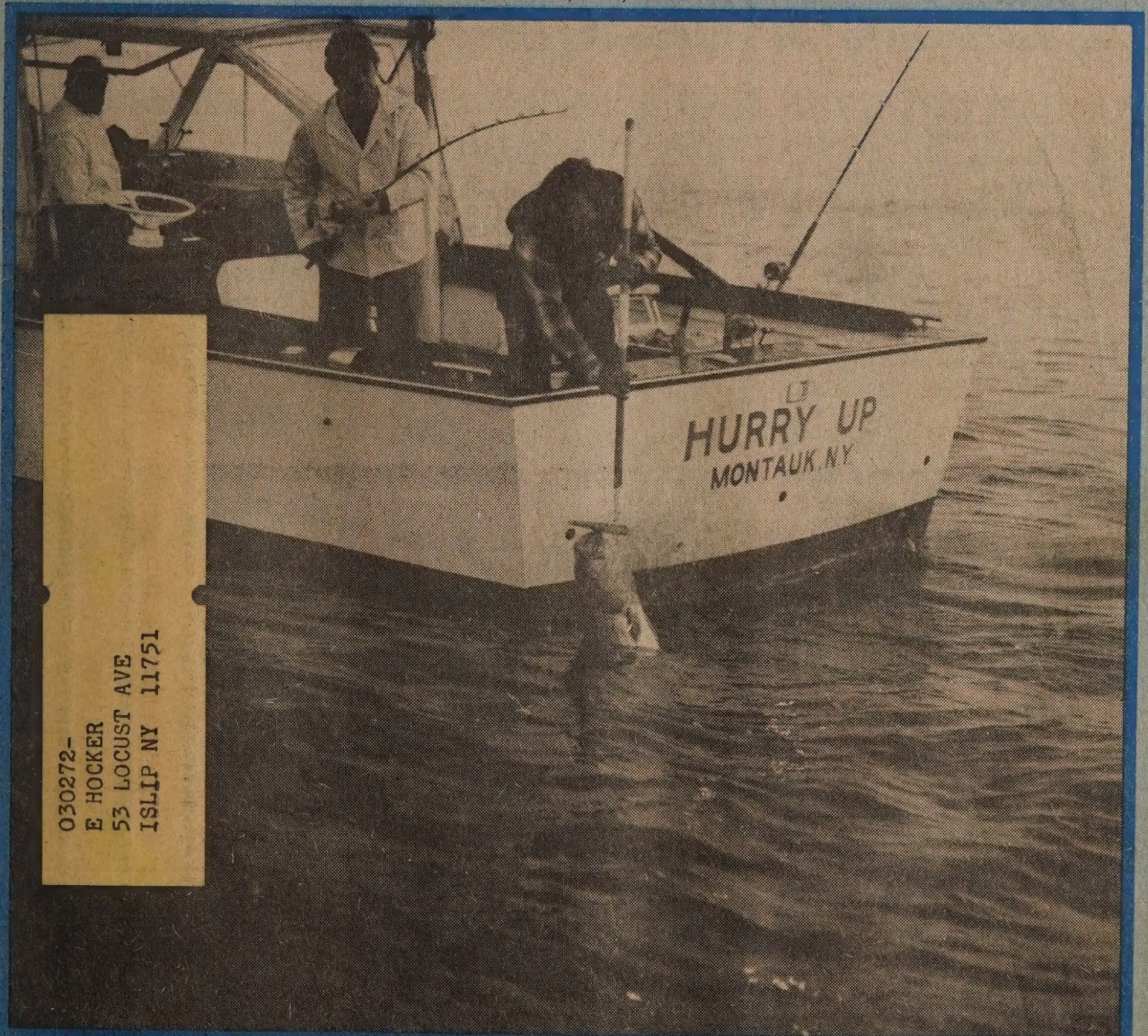
The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

SEPTEMBER 2nd, 1976, ISSUE No. 33



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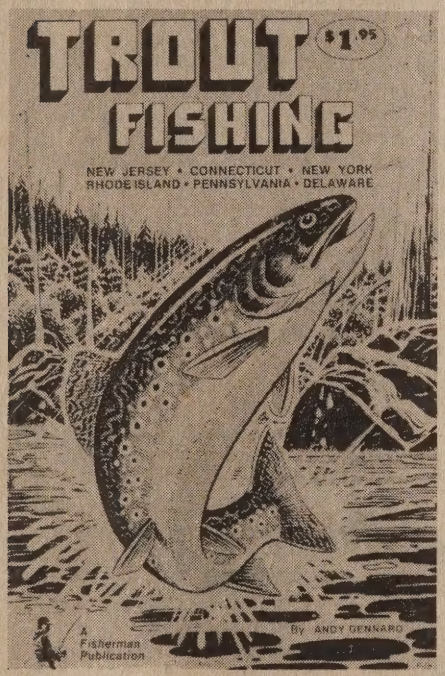

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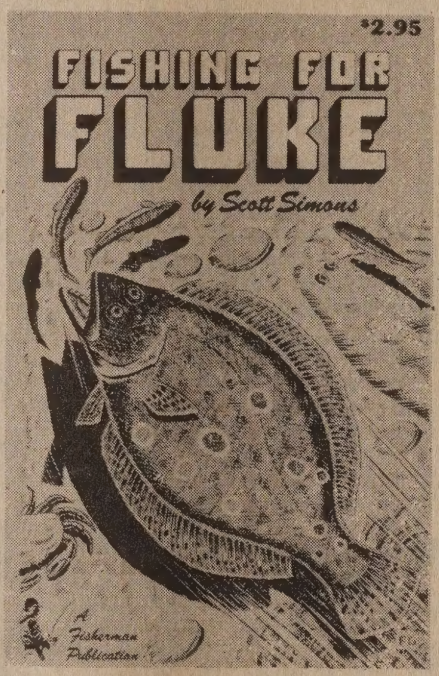

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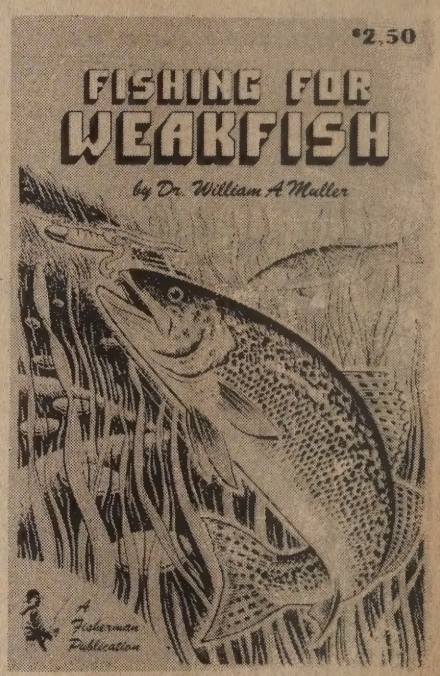

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The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

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Captain Frank Braddick of the charterboat "Hurry-Up" at Montauk gaffs a 42 pound striped bass that hit a Stan Gibbs plug trolled in the Pollack Rip at dawn, one of Frank's specialties.

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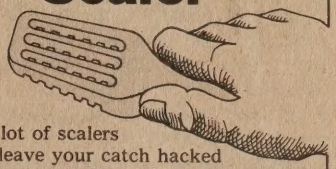

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Chum Lines

RISTORI AND BASS

Dear Mr. Ristori: I am in total agreement that something should be done, and quickly to protect the striped bass. The way things are going, the only place you may find a striped bass in years to come is on the back of a nickel. Like the American buffalo, laid to waste and made extinct.

Unfortunately, I do not believe your suggestion of limited catches in the answer. Why is the average man always called upon to conserve what is left of our natural resources, after the land and waters have been raped by corporations, millionaires, and industry. Huge profits for their stockholders is all that matters for big business. All taken under the disguise of "progress for mankind."

Water pollution and land fill are the two primary killers of bass (the amount of fish that I take lately with fin rot is shocking) sophisticated commercial fishing is second and hook and line last and least in the killer department. I find it inconceivable that hook and line fishing could ever deplete the striped bass stocks. God has many ways of protecting the fish from fishermen. Unfortunately, he did not consider mans intelligence as a detriment to his environment.

We should take a tip from our early settlers who understood the value of conservation. Having come from a world where the local waters were virtually fished out, they tried to protect what they found in the new world. In 1639, the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony ordered that neither cod nor bass be used as fertilizer. Well Captain John Smith, don't worry about it. At today's market prices no striped bass will end up under a rose bush.

Having said my piece now obligates me to make a suggestion on how to. Also after over 20 years of boxing striped bass for market, I feel a responsibility to do something.

The most immediate step to take is raise the size limit to 21 inches. This would save the few remaining small fish (out of the hundreds of bass I have taken so far this year, only about 5 fish were classified as small by market standards.)

A government sponsored program to breed striped bass should be instituted. At least on a state level. Things are going to get worse before they get any better. A campaign to propagate bass may take years before achieving any success.

Our biggest battle is with the spoilers. The fish must be allowed to breed in a near natural environment as possible. Clean up the back waters from industrial waste and protect the wetlands. This is a mighty task and involves anyone who has ever caught a bass or would like to. Time, effort, and money (mostly money, like fighting fire with fire) should be given by all those concerned. A strong lobby would create attention and bring in other groups concerned with the environment. In large numbers we would be a political force to reckon with.

Having legislation passed is the ultimate answer in cleaning up the rivers and backwaters that are indigenous to striped bass.

Only a few years back a bill to make striped bass a game fish was defeated. It should have been. Bass are an important food fish and should remain marketable. We live in a world of compromise. A more realistic attitude will gain support from many more groups and eventually further our aims.

Yes, Mr. Ristori, I am all for it. But what good is a fish per man limit when there will be nothing left to limit. You may find the backing from the commercial fisheries stronger than the sport groups.

No matter what, do not despair. We need a champion to rally the cause like myself, most people will express their own opinions and unity will be extremely difficult. Keep trying and good luck. **Capt. John DeMaio.**

News Releases

NEW RECORD HOLDERS

Fishermen have been having excellent luck in New York State this season, according to a report today by Commissioner of Environmental Conservation Peter A.A. Berle. He announced that six new State records have been established already this year—four in freshwater and two in saltwater. The fish were entered in the Department's Record Fish Program.

"New York's Record Fish Program is not a contest," Commissioner Berle explained. "Rather it offers a lucky angler some recognition for his achievement while still keeping the emphasis on recreation as the primary goal of sports fishing. Every fisherman, young or old, dreams of the day when he or she will catch a record-breaker. But, realization of that dream is a rarity. What keeps every fisherman fishing is just the fun the sport brings.

"I am sure that all of our new record holders take delight in their success but haven't quit fishing because they

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established a record. Instead, their success may encourage all of us on those slow days that afflict even the best anglers sometimes," he said.

The new State records are as follows:

Scup (porgy), 4 lbs. 8 oz., taken on June 14th 1976 on a mussel bait in Long Island Sound by Rodney Gruler, Northport; Weakfish, 14 pounds 12 ounces taken May 15th on a bucktail lure in Great Peconic Bay by John A. Bogdan of Aquebogue; Carp, 35 pounds 4 ounces taken May 18th on corn bait in Keuka Lake by Joseph Dewey, Webster; Crappie 3 pounds taken on May 7th on a Rapala lure in Greenwood Lake by James Flanagan of Greenwood Lake; Splake, 9 pounds 6 ounces taken April 22nd on a Rapala lure in Lake Eaton, by William Reynolds of Castorland and White bass of 2 pounds taken on May 30th on a Sonar lure in Oneida Lake by Robert Cote Jr. of Bridgeport N.Y.

New York's Record Fish Program is open to all sports anglers fishing New York waters. There are categories for 27 freshwater and 28 saltwater fish, as well as eight categories for youthful anglers, 10 years of age and under. There is no entry fee for the program. The only requirement is completing an official entry form, available at all regional offices of the Department as well as from many license-issuing agents.

STRIPED BASS BIBLIOGRAPHY

For those readers with an eye toward the scientific, we recommend a new publication compiled by Larry O. Horseman and Ronnie J. Kernehan.

The publication is entitled, "An Indexed Bibliography of the Striped Bass, Morone saxatilis" and is available from Ichthyological Associates, Rd 1, Box 286, Middletown, Delaware, 19709 at only two bucks per copy.

Listing each and every scientific paper on the striped bass from 1670 to 1976 it provides an excellent reference for sportfishermen to enhance and develop their knowledge of the bass.

Unfortunately the bibliography fails in its opening background information to recognize the impact of spawning areas other than the Chesapeake Bay region, and in fact dismisses other spawning areas as restricted. Despite this short coming, it is a valuable publication.

CLUB NEWS

BERGAN BEACH YACHT CLUB ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

The Bergan Beach Yacht Club is sponsoring a 4th Annual Striped Bass Tournament on October 16th, and 17th 1976. Entrance fee is $10 each angler. Boundaries are from Shinnecock N.Y. to Manasquan, New Jersey with weigh-in stations to be listed.

Prizes will be plaques, trophies, fishing equipment and other valuable prizes. There will be a Captains and anglers meeting on October 15th, 1976 at 8 P.M. with snacks. For more info you can contact Mr. Mel Michaels at (212) 687-1155...15 W. 44th St., N.Y., N.Y.

BABYLON TUNA CLUB

On September 12th, '76, the Babylon Tuna Club will hold the fourth annual Great South Bay Tournament. This is a fishing contest, an inshore contest, covering the waters of the Great South Bay. It is unique in that the small boat fishermen can compete with the large boat fishermen.

Prizes and trophies will be awarded for club and individual entries: the species are bluefish, blackfish, striped bass, weakfish, fluke and flounder. Entry fee is $3 per angler. Club entry is $35 for a 3 boat team. Clubs may enter more than one team.

Free charts are to be given out and boat ramps and boat berths are available nearby. For information or applications contact, John Fitzsimmons, 10 Patricia Court, No. Babylon, N.Y. 11703, or call 586-1325.

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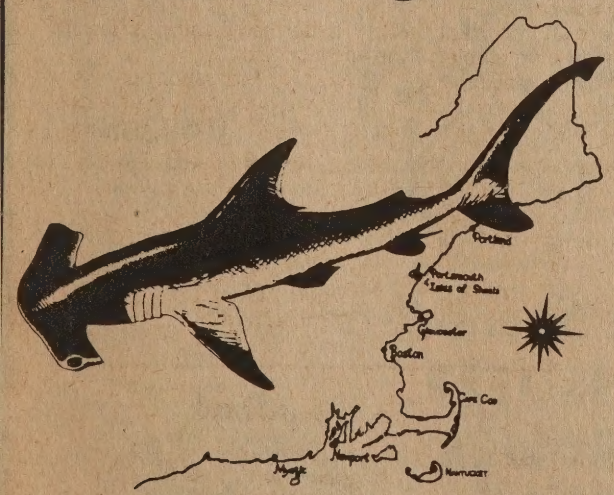

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ARTHUR KLORFEIN MEMORIAL RODEO RESULTS

The results of the Arthur Klorfein Memorial Rodeo, August 21, and 22nd hosted by the Montauk Marine Basin are as follows. Proceeds go to the Montauk Fire Department.

Overall inshore winner was Ronald Steward of Brooklyn. The boat was the "Ro Ro Renee." The crew was Captain Charles Nappi, Paul Vissicchio, both of Montauk; Harry Levitsky and Randy Steward, both of Brooklyn; Martin Swithinbank of New York and Dave Hymowitz of Englewood N.J.

Lartest bluefish was taken by Ginny Galletta weighing 13¾ pounds. The Captain was Attilio Bitondo of Great Neck and the boat was the "White Marlin."

Largest fluke was taken by Gene DeFever from Astoria. The Captain was Ed Hegner and the boat was the "Web" from Montauk.

STRIPER SURF CLUB INC.

The Striper Surf Club Inc. recently announced that some of their members did a bang-up job on bass for the month of July including a cow of 52 pounds. The anglers were Mike Campanelli of Massapequa for the 52 pounder, Jack Vande Kieft for a 30 and two 18's. Tony Jesu of Staten Island had a 21 pounder, Frank Spadavecchia 20 pounds and Sal Siciliano of Valley Stream 23 pounds and two of 17 pounds.

Membership committee recently suggested adding a few members to their rooster while there is still time to take advantage of the regular meeting classes before the heavy fall fishing sets in. For membership, call either Joe Sarrantonio at 516-826-8657 or Jack Vande Keift at 212-767-6582.

FREE BOATING CLASS

Flotilla commander Harry Frankel has announced that the United States Coast Guard auxiliary will conduct a free public education class dealing with boating skills and boating safety. Classes will commence on Monday night, September 13th and will be of 2 hour duration. Course will run for 16 weeks. The course will be rendered in the clubhouse of the Diamond Point Yacht Club which is located at 1350 paerdegat Avenue North, in the Canarsie section of Brooklyn. Anyone desiring further information should phone Comm. Frankel any. business day between 9:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. at 212-868-8853.

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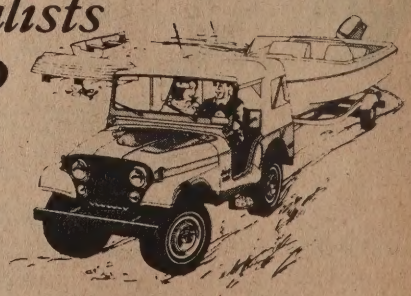
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CONSERVATION COMMENTS *by Al Ristori*

When I first was informed of my selection to a three year term on the Mid-Atlantid Fishery Management Council, it appeared that sportfishing interests would be well represented. At that time, Governor Byrne's office told me that Bill Feinberg, long time official of the Asbury Park Fishing Club and leader in every conservation movement effecting the Jersey coast, was also appointed to the council by Elliot Richardson, Secretary of Commerce. With two anglers from the state of New Jersey alone, it appeared that we'd be in good shape.

Unfortunately, the rest of the news wasn't as encouraging. It should be emphasized that the selections were not made strictly on a state by state basis. Each state in the Mid-Atlantic region is entitled to at least one public voting member on the council. The rest are selected at large, though, as we expected, the largest states (New York and New Jersey) each received three selections, while two each went to Maryland and Virginia. Delaware and Pennsylvania were each accorded one representative. Apparently there was an attempt to balance various maritime interests on a regional basis, though this resulted in such local anomalies as the selection of two sportsmen from New Jersey and none from New York.

Selected for three year terms, in addition to myself, were Bill Feinberg; Allen W. Haynie, Chairman, Zapata-Haynie Corp. (bunker processors); and Dr. John L. McHugh, Professor, Marine Resources, Marine Sciences Research Center, State University of New York at Stony Brook. The latter selection was a surprise as Dr. McHugh had appeared on a Channel 13 (PBS) debate, several years ago, in opposition to the 200 mile limit!

Two year terms went to Nancy K. Goell, East Hampton, New York, Executive Director, Group of America's South Fork, Long Island; Elliot J. Goldman, Lafayette Hill, Pa., attorney; William R. Pell, Greenport, L.I., proprietor, Pell's Fish Market and Sea Food Transportation; and Rick Savage, Berlin, Maryland, commercial fisherman.

Selected for one year terms were: John H. Burger Jr., Dover, Delaware, President, Burger Construction Co. and Breakwater Construction Co.) Dr. Eugene L. Cronin, Annapolis, Maryland, Professor of Zoology, Director of the Natural Resources Institute, University of Maryland; Dr. William J. Hargis, Jr., Gloucester Point, Virginia, Director, Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences, and David H. Hart, Cape May, N.J., marine fisheries consultant. Hart is an ex-bunker captain, whose long service on the New Jersey Fish and Game Council has earned him the respect of sportsmen's groups.

In addition to the twelve "public" voting members, each governor appointed a state official with primary marine fishery responsibility. Sportsmen will be pleased to note that these state officials include Russ Cookingham, Director, Division of Fish, Game and Shellfisheries, Department of Environmental Protection, New Jersey, and Peter A.A. Berle, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Conservation, New York. While an assemblyman, Berle was the sponsor of the S.O.S. striped bass gamefish bill. Also having a vote is Bill Gordon, Regional Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Gloucester, Mass. Non-voting members include representatives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Coast Guard; Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Irwin Alperin); and State Department.

Needless to say, we were greatly dissapointed in not getting more sportfishing representation on the council. This was particularly true in the case of Doc Muller, who we felt was especially well qualified. However, Doc was only one of many fine sportsmen passed over. In New Jersey, this included John Brown, Ocean City, a leader of the 200 mile battle in south Jersey, and Bob Snover, aide to Congressman Edwin Forsyth and leader in the Hatteras seining fight. In fact, we may have done better than our fellow sportsmen in the New England region. There such outstanding individuals as Chris Weld, National Coalition for Marine Conservation; Bob Pond, Stripers Unlimited; Pat Carroll, Striped Bass Fund; and Ed Migdalski, marine biologist were passed over.

Indeed, the only clear-cut sportsmen-oriented selection on the New England Council was that of Hal Lyman, publisher of Saltwater Sportsman. Commercial interests have a clear majority among the public members appointed in New England. However, sportsmen will be happy to hear that Lee Wulff, Chairman of the New Hampshire Fish and Game Association will be one of the designated state officials.

While the initial appointments may provide some cause for concern, it's too early to adopt a negative outlook. There is certainly no excuss of commercial interests on the Mid-Atlantic Council, and I suspect that a conservation ethic will predominate. We'll know a lot more about our fellow council members after the week of September 13th to 17th, when members of all eight regional councils will meet in Washington. After that, meetings will be held on an irregular basis within each region. Since one third of the public members were chosen for one year terms, there will be an opportunity to effect changes as early as next year. We'll keep you informed of the workings of the council and the performance of its members.

At this time I'd like to publicly thank all those readers who wrote letters in my support to Governors Byrne and Carey. Though a native Long Islander, I now live in New Jersey and was looking for nomination only from that state. As it turned out, many anglers must have written to Governor Carey as I was nominated in New York, as well as New Jersey. However, since no sportfishermen were selected from New York, I feel that I should represent the sportsmen from both states and welcome your communications. Drop me a line in care of The Fisherman, or at the Garcia Corp., 110 Charlotte Place, Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 07632. Difficult and divisive questions will be taken up by the council. I'm sure I won't be able to please everyone, but I will listen to every side and welcome your comments and suggestions.

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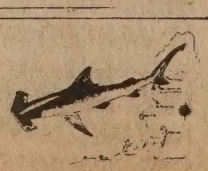

Surf Side with Fred Schwab

MULLET RUN

Part II

Beaches immediately west of the south shore inlets are the first locations to experience the mullet run, thus they are likely to be the first areas at which a blitz may occur. In addition, the varied bar formations, water depths and currents characteristic to beaches adjacent to inlets, are factors which make them excellent places at which to fish throughout the fall migratory period. The area just west of Moriches Inlet, the Town of Babylon's, Cedar Beach and the Point Lookout/Lido Beach stretch, offer great potential for these reasons, especially at mullet time.

Jetties, sand bars, or any object which obstructs and delays the mullets westward movement, or which causes turbulence and tends to scatter or disorient them while at the same time providing cover for the larger predator species, are potentially productive locations. The bar formations at Cedar Beach, the "pocket" on the east side of the Short Beach (West End) jetty at Jones Inlet and the Atlantic and Long Beach jetties are prime examples.

A flat lifeless surf is usually not the most productive as it provides little cover for gamefish and permits the mullet to travel on too straight a course close to the beach, where they are less likely to be discovered or at least, seriously threatened by predators. A rough surf will often produce excellent fishing during this period, but if the water becomes dirty and discolored the mullet run will usually be temporarily halted and the gamefish will stop feeding. Once the surf begins to clear, the migration, and with it, the angling action should resume.

During this run long casts are rarely necessary for as already noted the mullet hug the shoreline. When gamefish move in or on a school of mullet, it's usually obvious as swirls, tail slaps, breaks and spraying baitfish will be in evidence and it is towards this activity that the angler should direct his cast. The fisherman should be prepared for the unexpected, such as a strike the instant his lure hits the water, or at the very last moment of the retrieve. He should be certain that his drag setting is not too tight by testing it at regular intervals. When mullet are in the surf striped bass of all sizes are likely to be present; a strong fish will be uncontrollable and is not going to hold still while you nervously fumble with the drag mechanism.

When stripers are chasing mullet they are apt to strike at any lure which crosses their path. During daylight hours, lures which splash or cause some commotion on top, such as popping plugs and surface swimmers have the edge, especially if one is fishing in water which is slightly discolored or where wave action is creating some white water. Metal jigs will take their share, but if the fish are stripers of mixed sizes, the chances of connecting with a big bass are somewhat better with a plug. Of course, the speedier and usually more agressive bluefish, regardless of size will readily slam a flashy jig.

Underwater swimmers are best at night and while they may be used under a variety of conditions, they are most effective when fished slowly in a current or rip. The surface swimming plug can be very productive at night, in quiet or slow moving water. One of my favorites throughout this run, and in fact during the entire fall season, is the Junior Atom. While it is most effective at night, it will often take fish during the day and can be fished at a variety of speeds and depths.

The color of the plug should match the color of the bait as closely as possible. A blue, green or grayish black, shading into silvery reflective sides, or any bright color, seem to do well during daylight hours. The use of light colored lures on bright nights, and dark shades on moonless nights, often leads to success, however, frequent changes in color are advised until you start hitting fish.

Bass in particular, will occasionally lay in wait to ambush a passing school of mullet, and rock jetties seem to be favored locations at which they employ this strategy. Swirls and white water produced by passing waves, the many nooks and crannies among the rocks, and shadows cast by these structures, provide a lurking predator with a multitude of places for concealment. Working a plug "close-in", among the sides and at the tip of a jetty could produce a savage strike from a fish which seemingly came from nowhere. Regulars know this and even if casting for distance, will "work" the lure until the last possible moment of the retrieve. An area which is rocky or has an irregular bottom also presents the striper with an opportunity to hide and wait for some unsuspecting victim.

When a school of mullet is spotted moving along the beach unmolested, keep an eye on them. If possible, follow them. A memorable angling experience may be yours to enjoy at the very next sand bar, patch of white water, or jetty.

If you are witness to, or hear of a large movement of mullet at a particular location, it is possible at times to intercept them at a place further to the west; several hours later or during the following day, dependent upon the distance involved and water conditions. Such relationships exist between Moriches Inlet to Democrat Point; Cedar Beach to the "pocket" alongside the Short Beach jetty, and Point Lookout to the Long Beach and Atlantic Beach jetties. Always bear in mind that while they may occasionally slow down or seek temporary shelter, once the mullet leave the south shore inlets they move towards the west.

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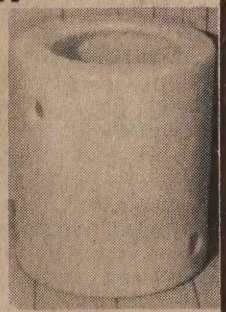

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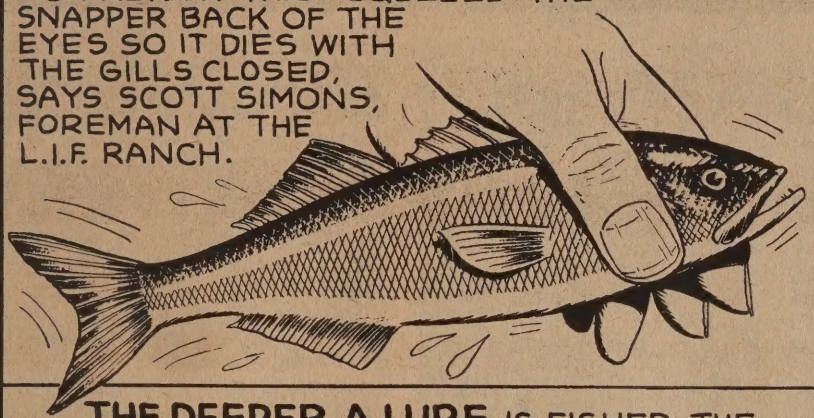
FISHERMAN TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

SNAPPERS HAVE A HABIT OF DYING WITH THEIR MOUTHS OPEN AND GILLS SPREAD WIDE SO THAT THEY TWIST THE LINE WHEN USED AS BAIT. TO PREVENT THIS - SQUEEZE THE SNAPPER BACK OF THE EYES SO IT DIES WITH THE GILLS CLOSED, SAYS SCOTT SIMONS, FOREMAN AT THE L.I.F. RANCH.

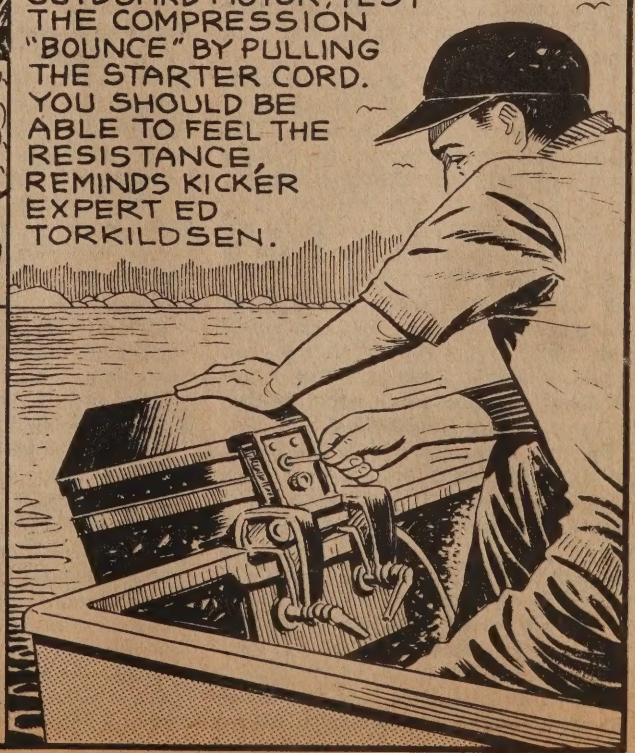


A BOAT IS CONSIDERED 55% SAFE FROM A LIGHTNING BOLT, BUT GROUNDED MASTS AND RADIO ANTENNA ACT AS LIGHTNING RODS TO MAKE PROTECTION 100%. A CAR IS ALSO 100% SAFE. ALONE IN THE WATER IS ONLY 10% SAFE AS THE DANGER ZONE EXTENDS 200 FT. OR MORE AROUND YOU.

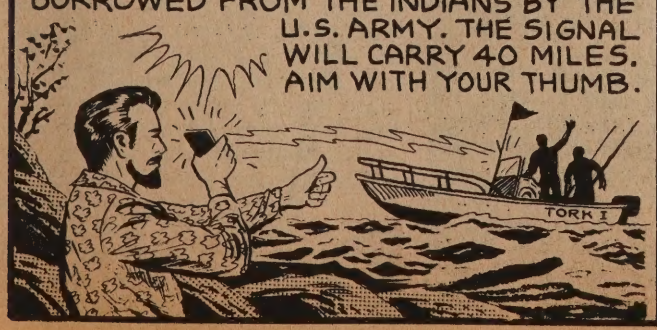
THE DEEPER A LURE IS FISHED, THE POORER ITS COLOR BECAUSE OF LIGHT PENETRATION INTO THE WATER. TESTS SHOW THAT *BLUE* RETAINS ITS COLOR THE DEEPEST. *RED*, THE MOST POPULAR COLOR, NO LONGER REFLECTS LIGHT AT DEPTHS OF 20 FT.

USE VERY SMALL TREBLE HOOKS RATHER THAN A SINGLE HOOK. IN FISHING FOR CARP, TREBLE HOOKS HOLD CARP BAIT BETTER AND INCREASE THE CHANCE OF HOOKING A FISH THAT TAKES THE BAIT.

BEFORE BUYING A USED OUTBOARD MOTOR, TEST THE COMPRESSION "BOUNCE" BY PULLING THE STARTER CORD. YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FEEL THE RESISTANCE, REMINDS KICKER EXPERT ED TORKILDSEN.



METAL MIRRORS CAN BE USED IN SUNLIGHT AS A HELIOGRAPH TO SIGNAL RESCUE PARTIES. THIS IDEA WAS FIRST BORROWED FROM THE INDIANS BY THE U.S. ARMY. THE SIGNAL WILL CARRY 40 MILES. AIM WITH YOUR THUMB.



THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

Fishing For Chinese Food

We were drifting over a small rocky "piece" of bottom when I felt the familiar "tap tap" of a fish mouthing the bait. After waiting a few seconds for another tap, I lifted my rod tip sharply to set the hook and the rod suddenly bent double as a large fish tried to dog his way back to the safety of the bottom.

"I've got a good one, Frank...shrimp fried rice, maybe even a quart of sweet and pungent pork."

"It's about time...it was beginning to look like all this piece was holding was a couple of egg rolls."

Readers sit down, because I am about to give away one of my best kept secrets...how to fish for a chinese food dinner! Before you think I'm nuts and skip to another article, please read on... unless of course, you don't like chinese food.

What were we fishing for? Seabass. How do you get a chinese meal out of a few seabass? Well, take a few LARGE seabass in a bucket of ice to your local chinese take-out establishment, dump them out on the counter in front of the owner and say "ya wanna trade me some chinese food for these fish that I caught a FEW MINUTES ago?" Before you can duck, he'll start throwing fried rice, egg rolls, almond cookies, lo mein and little packets of soy sauce, duck sauce and hot mustard at you.

For one reason or another, oriental people have a love for seabass that borders almost on a passion. They prepare it for themselves in one of three ways: steamed with a black bean sauce, sweet and sour, and stuffed. The methods of preparation and cooking are time consuming, so they don't want to waste all the effort on small seabass of less than a pound. But a two or three pounder will make their eyes pop out of their heads! As a rule of thumb, you should be able to trade your fish pound for dollar: ten pounds of large seabass for ten dollars of chinese food.

By the way, this same bartering method also works equally well with large porgies, but not with such notoriously good-eating fish like a striped bass. One time I had the manager of a chinese restaurant looking at the fish I was offering in the trunk of my car. He picked out about 12 pounds of the larger seabass for $12 of food, then asked me how much for the striped bass of about 18 pounds. I had also taken that day. I said "how much you pay?"

Large "humpback" seabass like this five pounder held by Linda Irmalinski are excellent barter for Chinese food.

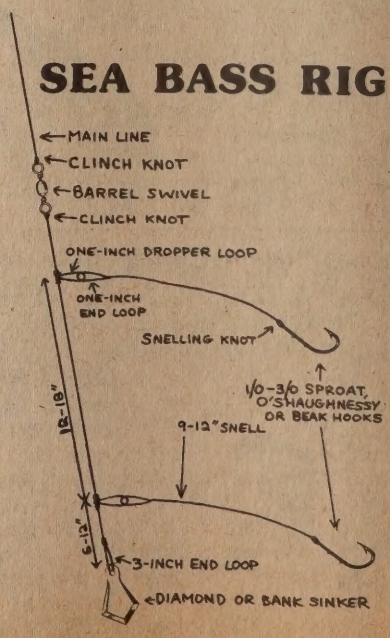
and he said "two dollars," so I grabbed the bag of steaming food and ran away before "they" arrived to take him away.

Fishing for the seabass is one of my favorites for many reasons. First, there is very little fishing pressure on them because most anglers are not even aware of their presence. So there are usually plenty of fish to be taken, and you can fish for them at a leisurely pace without battling the usual armada of boats fishing in the summer months. The larger fish make an excellent account of themselves and pound for pound surpass even the fight of the striped bass, bowing only to the bluefish in this department. And then there's always that added bonus of a free meal at the end of the day.

There is nothing critical about the fishing techniques used to catch the seabass once they have been located. They have large mouths and will usually engulf a bait rather than peck at it like a porgy or hold onto it like a fluke, so hooking a biting fish is usually no problem. Rigging up is simple. A two hook rig (See diagram A.), bottom hook no more than six inches above the sinker and a second hook about a foot or so above the first. I use either a 1/0 or 3/0 hook in sproat or beak style on a stiff twelve inch leader. Tie plenty of rigs in advance, as many will be lost on the rocky bottom being fished and you don't want to waste any valuable fishing time tying rigs. Use only the bank or cannonball shaped sinkers that are less likely to foul on the rough bottom than other patterns.

The choice of bait for the large black seabass is quite wide as compared to other bottom species of fish. The two most popular are the skimmer clam and squid, but they are by no means the best for one reason: skimmer clams and/or squid do not represent a very large proportion of their diet. At the end of every seabass trip I make, I will always find some of the following foods in the bottom of the fish box that the sea bass had disgorged when they croaked: small crabs and parts from larger crabs, small bergalls (cunners), baby lobsters and lobster parts, sand eels, spearing and an old indian head nickel that I strongly suspect some wise guy slipped into the fish box in a futile attempt to trick me into recommending them for bait, which I don't, although I do see certain possibilities if the nickels are presented in a natural manner.

In any case, I have rarely found a piece



of a skimmer clam or squid in the box other than those that were obviously used for bait. But they are very effective and readily available, and are as good as anything else for a start. The skimmer clam should be cut in half-inch wide strips that include both part of the hard tongue and soft belly. Thread the tongue on the hook two or three times, allowing the soft belly portion to hang from the hook. The lips are also good when threaded on the hook with a portion trailing. The empty clam shells can be used for chumming if you anchor up, so save them. Whenever possible, purchase live skimmers in the shell rather than the frozen variety...it's fresher, firmer, and is considerably more economical when purchased by the bushel. At the end of the day, the unused clams may be shucked and frozen for future trips for seabass, porgies, striped bass, blackfish or even dyed and frozen for flounder.

Personally, I like to use squid, although I suspect I am wrong because those using skimmers seem to score better. To prepare the squid for bait, first cut off the head close to the mantel (body) and then cut it in half between the eyes. If the squid are small, the head may be used whole as bait. Place the head on a hook once through the eyes and then a second time through the hard meat below the eyes where the tentacles begin to branch out. The mantal is split up the middle with a knife so that you have a sheet of squid, then it is cut into strips as shown in diagram B. Make the strips two to three inches in length and one half to three quarter inches wide. Rig the individual strips by hooking them through the end two or three times depending upon the length of the strip, allowing about an inch to trail off the hook.

As I've noted, some of the best bait you can obtain for sea bass often comes from the food that the sea bass spit up on the deck after they have been landed. It is very common for the fish to disgorge their stomach contents onto the deck—small, whole crabs with shell diameters between the size of a dime and a quarter, crab legs and claws, lobster parts and claws, even baby lobsters like the three inch one shown in the photo that I found in my fish box this past June after a day of sea bassing. Many times you can see a small crab in the throat of a fish when you are unhooking them. Just hold the bass upside down and shake the food onto the deck and stick it on your hook. Using these little tidbits that are obtained gives you the advantage of using for bait the same food that the fish have recently been feeding on.

Both sandeels and spearing are good sea bass baits, but have little advantage over those we have discussed. But live killies are another matter, as it never

Large seabass will often disgorge food from their stomach that the angler may use for bait, such as this three inch baby lobster.

hurts to use a live bait that appears to belong to the sea bass's environment. I strongly believe that the killies are mistaken by the sea bass to be small bergalls that are often found in the same areas as them and which are a large part of their diets. In any case, give them a try.

Locating the types of bottom formations that seabass inhabit is crucial to the anglers success in catching them in any quantity. A decent graph recorder is a tremendous aid in locating these formations and you should always have a few marker buoys handy to mark any formations that are found. What you are looking for are reefs, rockpiles, wrecks and other obstructions that rise from the ocean's floor. These prime "pieces" of bottom can be as small as a refrigerator to reefs, shoals and banks several miles wide. As a rule, the smaller the "piece", the larger the seabass that inhabit it. It's interesting to note why this situation occurs, so let's note it.

Let's take a hypathetical pile of rocks the size of a 1965 white two door Plymouth Sedan that is surrounded by a relatively flat bottom under fifty to sixty feet of water. The sea bass will be attracted to this formation for two reasons: it affords protection from the predatory bluefish that may have heard about the deals being made at the chinks, and it also attracts small crustaceans and shellfish that provide a food source. Obviously, the smaller the formation, the smaller the food supply it will hold. Let's suppose that this particular rockpile can support five sea bass. At a given time, the population of five fish may be a three-pounder, two one-pounders and two small "pin" seabass of less than a half-pound each. Now along comes this two-pound seabass looking for a new home that decides he likes the neighborhood. But the food supply will only support a population of five, so somebody must move. Naturally, one of the pin-sized sea bass will see the light and gratiously make way for the two pounder.

The general locations of potentially productive bottom formations can be found on a nautical chart for your area. Look for notes such as "rocky", formations being noted as "shoal," "ledge", "rock," "reef," and depth markings that show a rise of the bottom in a confined area. Once you get in the general area, cruise around slowly with one eye on the graph recorder. I have a Sitex machine on the boat, and some of the readouts of bottom formations that produced good catches of fish are printed to give you an idea of what you are looking for. Remember, no formation is too small if you are looking for the large "humpback" seabass.

One excellent method of locating bottom compositions and formations likely to harbor a population of fish is to look for lobster buoys, which the owners place on rocky areas where the lobsters are usually plentiful. In fact, it is not at all uncommon for a lobsterman (lobsterperson?) to find a few of the curious seabass in the pots being tended.

Keep a marker buoy at your side as you cruise around and drop it over the side when you pass over a formation you suspect may hold some fish. Then swing

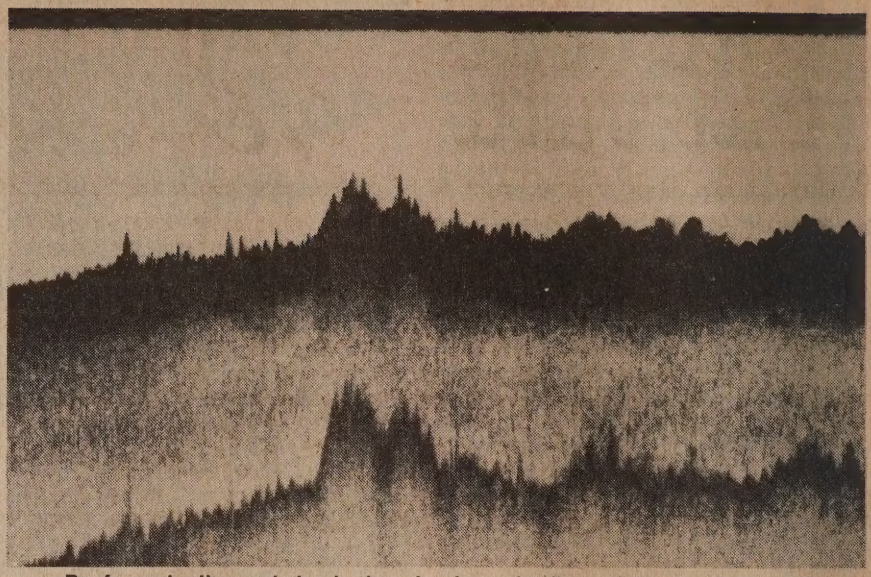
the boat up-current of the buoy and start a drift so that you pass over the formation. If it holds fish, you may continue to make short drifts over it if it is small and probably doesn't hold too many fish. But if the formation is large and seems to hold a good population of sea bass, your best bet is to anchor up and chum. Purchase a can of frozen clam bellies, gouge out a frozen chunk about the size of a grapefruit, put it in a weighted chum pot and lower it to the bottom. Chum leftover at the end of the day may be refrozen in waxed milk containers for future use as chum blocks that fit nicely into the pot.

Although seabass will feed during all stages of the tide, I have found that they hit best at the beginning and ends of the tide when the water is not moving too strongly. During mid-tide the moving current often makes it difficult to hold bottom without a prohibitive amount of weight on your line. For this reason, it is a good idea to fish the changes using monofilament line 15 to 20 lb. test that will require less weight to keep your rig on the bottom than the heavier tests. It's also a good idea to bring along a good supply of pre-tied rigs whenever you go for sea bass because the rough formations will claim quite a few of them.

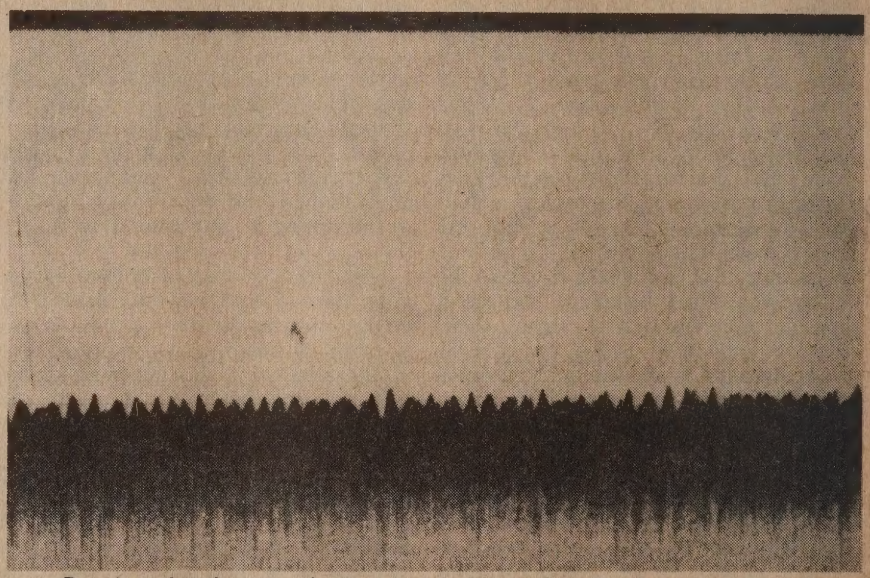
If you should happen to locate a bottom formation that quickly puts some fish in the boat and then the action tapers off, take a shore range or Loran reading of the spot so that you can locate it in the future. If the population of sea bass on the formation is small and you decimate it, wait a few days before fishing it again so that new fish can move in to fill the vacancies left by the former tennants. Just like farmland, it's a good idea sometimes to give a small bottom formation a "rest."

Last weekend I was fishing a piece of high ground between Block Island and Montauk Point for seabass with two friends. There was a good population of large seabass on the large formation, but not all that many were coming into the boat because of the bait-stealing bergalls that were mixed in with them. Playing a hunch, I started experimenting with an Ava-27 Diamond Jig that I had rigged on another rod for striped bass and bluefish. Before long I started taking quite a few real humpbacks, and it wasn't too long before we were all jigging for the seabass, catching good and at the same time avoiding the wrath of the bergalls. Several methods worked: free-spooling to the bottom, then four or five fast turns back down again, repeated over and over. This method also produced two bluefish of 12 and 17¾ pounds (on the scale) another advantage. By the way, don't be surprised if during the course of the day you have a sea bass or two neatly cut in half by a bluefish...it's a pretty common occurence. Jigging the Ava-27 (which has a single hook rather than treble, resulting in less lost fish) also produced fish. The jig was simply lowered to the bottom, then jigged at a fairly brisk pace with vertical sweeps of the rod tip, allowing the jig to flutter down and touch bottom for a split second after each stroke. This method seemed to work best with a small squid strip hooked once on the hook. No strip was necessary with the first method of retrieving, however. Usually the seabass would take the jig at the most awkward position of the rod, but it was easy to get the knack of setting the hook.

When using bait on the two hook rig for seabass, it's best to keep the bait moving by slowly raising the rod tip and lifting the sinker about a foot off the bottom and slowly lowering the rig back to the bottom again. The fish seem to pounce on the bait with a little more interest and the bergalls don't make as much of a nuisance of themselves for some reason. Setting the hook on a seabass is easier than most bottom fish, as they have large mouths and usually will just inhale the bait rather then peck at it or play with it awhile. When you feel a tap, set the hook with two or three short jabs of the rod. Keep your catch in a fish box on ice or in ice water out of the rays of the sun, which will cause them to loose their color and turn their skin to a light brown, making them worth hardly more than an old egg roll.



Reefs, rock piles and shoals that rise from the floor of the ocean like the one shown on this print-out made on the author's Sitex recorder are primary bottom formations for seabass.



Rough and rock strewn bottom compositions also attract a population of seabass.

ASK THE CAPTAIN

OPINIONS & ANSWERS

by Capt. Ronnie Lepper

Question: Joe Petrotta, Muskogee, Okl.

While vacationing from Oklahoma, I went fluke fishing. My friend caught a fluke that was brown on both sides. (Back and Belly). Is there any reason why it shouldn't be eaten? (It is a mutation)

Answer:

It's perfectly alright for your friend to eat that fluke as he has caught is commonly referred to as a sport. The odds for a mutation of this type are about 1 in 10,000. This abnormal color condition also occurs in flounders which along with the two brown sides also has scales on both sides. This color condition does not affect the food value of the fish.

Question: Bob Stekel, Little Neck.

I need some expert advice pertaining to transporting, launching and loading my 14 foot inflatable Zodiac with motor. I would appreciate any and all suggestions regarding the handling of this craft.

Answer

I am sorry to say that I know absolutely nothing about inflatable boats. I strongly suggest that you call or write the manufacturer for all of their expert and up to date information and advice.

Question: Gary Wilson, Woodside, N.Y.

Have you ever caught striped bass on baby blackfish? I fish from the rock jetties in the Long Beach area and would like to try the blackfish as they are easier for me to catch than bunkers.

Answer:

I have never fished with live blackfish from the stones but have fished them from a boat on the ocean side with absolutely no luck. I once filled my live bait well with live blackfish, porgies, and bergalls along with my bunkers figuring that I had to score on one of those baits. My partner began bailing big bass on bunkers as soon as we started fishing. We would up with 31 fish over 30 pounds. I tried all of the other baits with no luck at all. I could see the fish come right up to these other baits and just turn away, yet engulf any bunker dead or alive that was within sight. I've caught some very big fish on blackfish in the bay under the bridges but never in the ocean. I would feel as though you should catch fish on them as long as you fish them in their natural habitat such as around rocks, wrecks, or bridges.

Question: George Pearlman, Baldwin.

I'm going to fish Provincetown, Cape Cod next month for the first time. I will be fishing from the beach and have a beach buggy. What I would like to know is how to gain entry to the beach on the ocean side thru the dunes. I understand that they are very strict on beach entry with buggies due to erosion.

Answer:

You can enter off Rt. #6 at the road leading to the P. town airport, and this road will take you along well marked trails to the ocean. You can also enter at No. Truro off Rt. #6. You are correct about the erosion problem and must stay on the marked trails while crossing the dunes. When you first experience the beauty of this area you will understand why they would like to keep it that way.

Question: John Narcise, Bronx

This season I am going shark fishing for the first time. I bought 14/0 hooks and single strand wire, steelon leader material too. Could you tell me what secret is used in making your own rigs? Are coast lockfast snap swivels good to bait the hook? My boat is at Fort Schulyer, Willets Point area. Could you tell me the best area?

Answer:

First of all you do not need 14/0 hooks as they are very expensive and completely unnecessary. Single strand stainless wire is your best bet for leaders in 12 ft. lengths as most leader material comes in 25 ft. coils (two leaders.) I prefer 160 lb. test wire as it gives you fewer kink problems and the sharks don't seem to notice any difference between light and heavy wire (most of the time). Any American made snap swivel of 75 or 100 lb. test will do nicely. There are no secret rigs that I know of as all the fellows I fish with use the same rig with excellent success. A 12 ft. single strand wire leader with a 10/0 hook on one end and a loop on the other to attach to your snap swivel. I prefer a long shank hook as it holds the baits better. I keep one outfit in reserve. A 12/0 with 250 lb. test leader and 14/0 hook, although I have not used it yet. Baits of mackerel, bunker and squid will entice any shark you will encounter. Two cans of chum used in a watered down state and 50 pounds of chunk bait (cut up mackerel and or bunker) will fill the bait department. A good grade 6'' flying gaff attached to 25 ft. of ½'' nylon and a few tail ropes will round out your equipment. I prefer 50 lb. tackle and have caught sharks to 600 pounds on it. Tagging and releasing is a good practice unless you enjoy shark meat or are looking for mounts. Any area of blue water (very clear) with temperatures of 69 to 75 degrees, usually found at depths of 120 feet or more will produce sharks.

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THE PERFECT FISH

by Mark Sosin

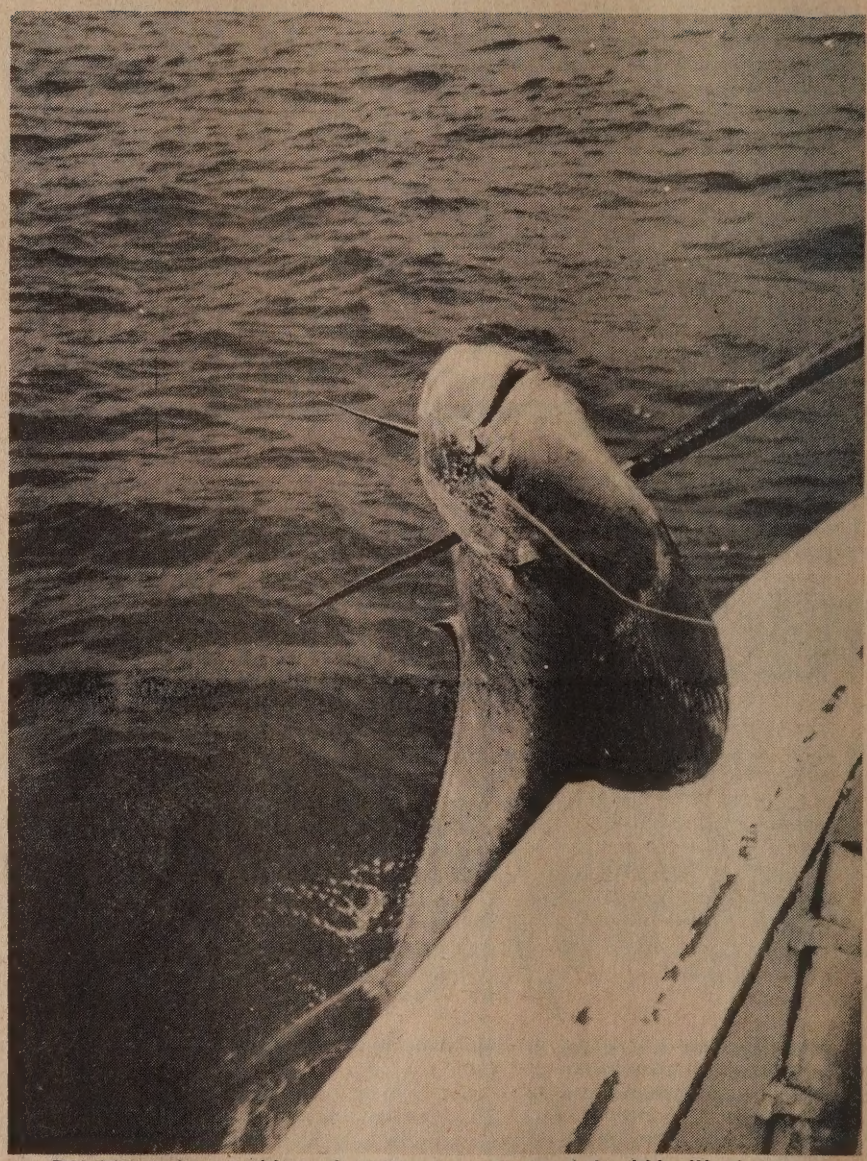
Bathed in green and blue and gold and flecked with other colors, the vividly hued dolphin has long been a crowd pleaser in the tropical seas of the world and wherever fingers of warm water venture within range of the offshore boats. Some call it the perfect fish because of its willingness to recklessly attack almost any bait or lure with the speed of a rocket and because dolphin are respectable adversaries on tackle that is matched to their size. They are aerialists at heart and jump frequently and somewhat spectacularly when they are not overpowered with heavy gear and winched unceremoniously to boat-side.

To the marlin fisherman who carefully rigs imported skipbaits, dolphin are a frustration and a feeding machine that will destroy these impeccable offerings. Anglers bent on doing battle with marlin curse the time spent cranking in a lesser species. Trying to get billfish aficionados to pause in their pursuit long enough to catch dolphin on casting tackle is also a lost cause.

The sight of a prowling pack of these marauders, lit up with excitement and glowing like a neon sign in the wavetops, is unforgetable and one almost forgets the baits and lures as he watches the fish race each other for a meal. Their eyesight is fantastic and they can spot a skipbait at unbelievable ranges. Even a plain feather becomes a target from a great distance away and you can see the fish coming for it. The strike is solid and the water boils. Indecision is seldom a part of the dolphin's make-up.

There are tricks for holding a school of dolphin close to the boat and skillful skippers can sometimes pick every fish that shows. The most common approach is to keep one hooked fish in the water at all times. A better way, however, is to cut up chunks of balao, mullet, mackerel or whatever bait is on board and flip it over the transom. Dolphin will hang around and pick up the tidbits.

One trick that few people know is that if you happen to see a pair of fish swimming near the boat and they look as if they will continue moving away from the boat, you can stick a rod tip in the water and swish it around. This will frequently bring the fish back for another look and hopefully you'll have a lure or bait rigged and ready by that time.



Dolphin can be a problem when they are gaffed and should be lifted right into an open fish box. Otherwise, they will beat wildly with their tails and can damage tackle or injure an angler in the process.

There's no greater angling pleasure than to cast a lure or fly for dolphin. You can set the stage in a variety of ways. Almost everyone knows that dolphin will hang under weedlines or take up residence under floating debris. A long, box, sheets of newspaper, or anything else floating on the ocean's surface is worth a look and a few casts.

The tackle you use should be prompted by the size fish you expect. Most dolphin range between 5 and 15 pounds, but you can occasionally find some bulls that will pull the needle on the scales beyond 50 pounds. Dolphin, of course, are a very short-lived fish. Researchers tell us that the biggest dolphin are only 4 to 5 years old. By the

second year of its life, a dolphin could reach 20 pounds and a 5 pounder is only a yearling.

If you're serious about your dolphin fishing, you should have two or three casting rods rigged with different lures. One might be a topwater chugger or darter and another should be rigged with a bucktail or hammered metal. You can use either spinning or plug casting tackle with lines between 10 and 15 pound test. If you prefer, you can even go lighter.

A preferred technique is to troll a couple of outfits until a school of fish can be located. Other anglers prefer to scout weedlines and debris and simply cast. Either method works. When you find a pod of fish, be sure to use chum to keep them around. Your initial casts should be long and the retrieve fairly fast. Dolphin will run the lure down and inhale it. If a surface plug fails, try an underwater lure or a bucktail. Keep varying your offering if there is any hesitancy on the fish's part. Dolphin are not finicky feeders and they'll clobber anything they want to eat.

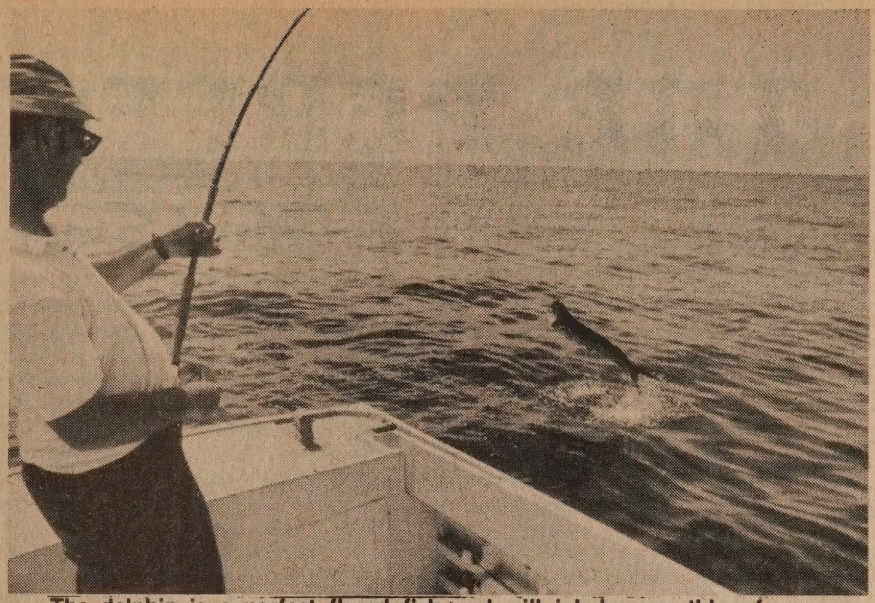
There are times when they will refuse even the most tempting offering. You may have to resort to cut bait if you're not a purist. If you insist on artificials, try long casts and whipping retrieves as fast as you can crank. This will often turn them on.

Dolphin are a perfect flyrod fish and will strike either streamers or poppers with equal gusto. If you can't do business on a regular retrieve and a fast one, try letting the fly float away dead. This is particularly effective when you are chumming. Remember that a dead drift means a dead drift. If you so much as twitch that fly, the fish will ignore it.

Because dolphin have teeth, their is a tendency to use a short trace of wire leader. Veterans, however, prefer to use heavy monofilament as a leader, insisting that they have more strikes and land an excellent percentage of these. Even the flyrodder does better with a shock tippet fashioned from monofilament.

You can waste a lot of time fighting a dolphin if you don't understand its tactics. The fish has a habit of using its broad, flat body to its advantage and, even if you run the boat, it will move off at an angle to you. Your pull on the fish is almost always sideways. Less experienced anglers put a stiff bend in the rod and let the fish hang out there, feeling they are exerting all the pressure they dare. The trick in landing dolphin (or any other fish) is in moving its head. You will actually have to pull the fish toward you.

Your quarry will be up near the surface, so you can watch everything that is taking place. The object is to use the rod to pump the fish toward you. Pull smoothly, but firmly, yielding only when the dolphin surges away. If you force the head of the fish toward you, you can shorten the time and get back to the fun of making another fish strike.



The dolphin is a perfect flyrod fish and will inhale everything from steamers and poppers to dead drifting flies in a chum slick. Once hooked, they perform well on the light gear and jump more than they do on other tackle.

Husky bull dolphin are fun on any tackle and provide an extra measure of enjoyment when the gear matches their size. Many an offshore journey was successful because these crowd pleasers invaded the baits.

It is possible to release dolphin by cutting the leader near their head if you don't want the fish. Dolphin by the way, are among the best eating fish in the sea. When you gaff them, however, they should be hustled into a fishbox because they will explode in the cockpit, slashing out with their tail and throwing blood everywhere in the process.

In our own waters, there are often small young-of-the-year dolphin around buoys, lobster pots, and other objects in the sea. These fish only average a couple of pounds, but they are dynamite on ultra-light tackle and you will hit a variety of small artificials. To my thinking, the dolphin, regardless of size, ranks as the perfect gamefish. Match the tackle to the fish and it will give you an angling challenge that is difficult to surpass.

PCB'S: Invisible Poisons

Part II

by Dr. William A. Muller

In part I I explored the ideas that PCBs are very dangerous, bioaccumulate in the environment, are widespread, but can be controlled if we ban the use of the chemicals.

The effects of PCBs on living systems are as varied as their distribution. It has been demonstrated that PCBs affect the central nervous system. Even at low levels, the chemicals produce hyper sensitivity and a general loss of equilibrium. In higher concentrations PCBs cause convulsions and death.

PCBs also have detrimental effects on homeostasis or the ability of organisms to maintain a steady-state in a changing environment. Actually, the physiology of a living organism is very complex and because there are overlapping and interacting systems, an organism can handle many stressful situations. PCBs upset homeostasis chiefly because of detrimental effects on the nervous system and the liver. In the liver, PCBs impair one of two ammonia detoxifying systems and blocks cortisol production from the adrenal gland.

Let me take a moment to explain the significance of these biological activities. Proteins are broken down by the body into amino acids which can then be oxidized. However when oxidized one of the products is ammonia which is highly toxic. The chemical must be detoxified by the liver before being sent to the kidney for excretion. The liver converts the ammonia to urea which can easily be handled by the body.

Cortisol is a harmone produced by the adrenal gland, but it affects the liver. Cortisol stimulates the conversion of amino acids to glucose when the liver's store of glycogen is used up. Cortisol also suppresses inflammatory and allergic responses. PCBs apparently inhibit the hyppothalmus and pituitary glands, preventing the production of corticotropin which stimulates the production of cortisol (Grant and Schoettger).

PCBs have been demonstrated to cause cancer in rats and concentrations as low as 100 ppm. Thus, PCBs have been shown to have complex effects upon the liver. (N.Y.S. Environment, Dec. 1975)

In monkeys PCB concentrations of 2.5 to 5 ppm have been shown to produce general loss of body hair, loss of weight, results in irregular menstrual cycles, and impairs the ability of female monkeys to hold a fetus. When the pregnancy runs full term, the offspring are smaller than those produced by uncontaminated females. (N.Y.S. Environment, Dec. 1975.)

Helen Hays of the Linnean Society has linked the occurence of 39 deformed tern chicks on Great Gull Island to high PCB levels in the parents. (New York Times, October 29th, 1971; August 19th, '73).

The chemicals are toxic to fish eggs in relatively low concentrations. Information is available for only a few species at this time.

FISH	TOXIC LEVEL FOR EGGS
Salmon (Jensen, 1970)	**0.5 ppb**
Minnow (N.W.Q.L., 1971)	**0.9 ppb**
Pinfish (Hansen et al., 1970)	**5 ppb**

Although the statistics are not yet available, recent communications reveal that striped bass eggs and fry are affected by PCBs. Apparently, mortality of bass eggs increases with increasing levels of PCBs in the adult fish. The newly hatched bass that are contaminated with PCBs also act erratically and may experience increased mortality. It has been shown that fry mortality does increase in some species with PCB levels as low as 5 ppm in the eggs.

It is difficult, if not impossible, at this time to even estimate how far reaching the effects of PCBs may be. Some experts have related high levels of PCBs to the failure of anadromous fish to find their way back to spawning streams and rivers. Therefore, since the striper is anadromous the success of future year classes may be in doubt.

In an independent study conducted by Stripers Unlimited, 85 percent of contaminated striped bass eggs died in the first 24 hours and 99 percent of the eggs and fry were dead within the first seven days. (Ponds, 1976) It is important to point out that errors in handling, could have accounted at least in part, for the high mortality.

Enough said about the effects of PCBs on living things, especially fish. It is not enough to identify the problem. We need solutions. There do appear to be ways of reducing the severity of the problem even if we can not solve it immediately.

Clearly we must ban the use and

production of PCBs. However, before we ban its use completely we must find alternative chemicals and or procedures. On this score there seems to be considerable disagreements among the experts.

Lewis Cohn of Universal Voltronics has stated that, "The world can get along without PCBs." He says that he found a PCB substitute in 1973. However, Business Week (10-6-75) proclaimed that PCB substitutes will mean $500 million a year in additional electrical equipment, and this cost is sure to be transferred to the consumer. With PCB substitutes we will need larger transformers and capacitors. However, the same issue of Business Week proclaims that substitutes are less expensive then PCBs themselves. There already exists a Dow Chemical product that could replace PCBs in large capacitors and a Dow Corning product for use in transformers. Nippon Petrochemicals produces Co-Napthalenes that are in use today in Japan. However none of these substitutes are non-flammable.

We are concerned about the danger of PCBs to life. But we must guard against panic: few problems are solved while muddled in passion and panic. The technology which created PCBs can also produce answers and solutions. Therefore, we need a good deal more study and action. We must do more sampling because we need to know how extensive the problem is. We need more research into the effects of PCBs on living things and we must ban the production of the chemicals and employ safe substitutes.

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	2:56	3:32	3:45	4:26	3:39	4:11	4:44	5:13	7:12	7:38	6:32	6:59	2:55	3:29	9/2
FRI.	4:05	4:37	4:57	5:32	4:46	5:16	5:52	6:17	8:25	8:47	7:38	8:03	3:59	4:31	9/3
SAT.	5:13	5:39	6:03	6:30	5:52	6:16	6:53	7:17	9:24	9:47	8:41	9:03	4:59	5:29	9/4
SUN.	6:11	6:32	7:00	7:26	6:48	7:11	7:48	8:10	10:19	10:38	9:37	9:57	5:53	6:19	9/5
MON.	7:00	7:19	7:49	8:11	7:38	7:56	8:34	8:54	11:05	11:25	10:24	10:45	6:43	7:05	9/6
TUE.	7:42	8:01	8:34	8:53	8:21	8:39	9:16	9:35	11:47	—	11:10	11:28	7:28	7:48	9/7
WED.	8:23	8:39	9:13	9:32	9:03	9:20	9:54	10:15	12:06	12:25	11:50	—	8:10	8:29	9/8
THUR.	9:00	9:16	9:51	10:08	9:43	9:58	10:33	10:52	12:43	12:57	12:09	12:28	8:50	9:07	9/9

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide , add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 10
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

9/7	6:31	7:24
9/12	6:37	7:15
9/17	6:42	7:06
9/22	6:47	6:57
9/27	6:52	6:49

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
9/23	9/1	9/8	9/16

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM **Major**	PM Minor	PM **Major**
THURS.	12:05	**6:55**	12:35	**7:15**
FRI.	1:05	**7:50**	1:30	**8:00**
SAT.	2:05	**8:25**	2:15	**8:50**
SUN.	2:35	**9:15**	3:05	**9:40**
MON.	3:25	**10:00**	3:55	**10:20**
TUES.	4:10	**10:40**	4:35	**11:00**
WED.	4:50	**11:20**	5:15	**11:40**
THURS.	5:30	—	5:55	**12:05**

Long Island's ARTIFICIAL REEFS

by Jeff Lockwood

As the number of fishermen increases annually, and as many fish stocks are dangerously depleted by sport and commercial overfishing, the artificial reef has rapidly become an essential element in the present-day marine environment.

It is well known by fishermen that fish and many other types of marine life are found in great concentrations on or around rocky reefs, rock ledges, and other rough-bottom areas.

These rough-bottom areas often serve as feeding grounds for fish. Small organisms such as algae, barnacles and mussels attach to hard substrate and are fed upon by small and large fish.

Fish can also find shelter in these areas by hiding in dark holes or under shadowy ledges. Finding shelter helps small or immature fish to escape from predation. Since more fish can survive and grow, the population increases. Eventual harvesting by large predators or man keeps the population within healthy limits.

A rough bottom is also attractive to fish as a place where they can take a rest in their struggle against the flow of the tides. The high profile of hard bottom structure reduces currents and wave surges, resulting in areas of relatively calm water.

It is believed that certain species of fish may use reefs or similar high-profile bottom structures as landmarks to hlep them find their way between different territories, such as during seasonal migrations. The fish may use the reef to feed and to rest, and sometimes to spawn, before continuing on their journey.

No matter how much many kinds of marine life are dependent on hard, rough bottom structure, the continental shelf does not have a natural abundance of this type of bottom. The broad, shallow floor of the shelf, where most marine life is concentrated, consists mainly of great expanses of sand or mud flats. This type of bottom supports relatively little fish and invertebrate life. The areas containing hard, irregular substrate are few and far between.

To get a more complete picture of the modern marine environment, one must include all of the shipwrecks, rock and rubble dumping grounds, and other hard junk that man has added to the sea floor in the past couple of centuries. All of these structures have unintentionally attracted marine life, but as for their suitability as fish habitats, they are too randomly located, and are often highly susceptible to the corrosive effects of salt water. These areas are simply not widespread or numerous enough to support enough fish to keep the ever increasing army of anglers happy.

In the past two decades, certain concerned scientists, state and federal government agencies and private sporting organizations have constructed a number of artificial fishing reefs to bolster fish populations in areas easily accessible to small-boat fishermen. In many cases, cooperation between the different groups has led to a pooling of financial, technical and manpower resources, resulting in the construction of a reef that would have been impossible to build any other way.

What exactly is an artificial reef? It is a structure composed of natural or man-made materials which is deliberately built in a specific area of the sea in an attempt to replicate those conditions which tend to attract fish and invertebrates to natural rough-bottom areas.

Other reefs have been built to revive marine life in areas damaged by dredging operations or by pollution. The reefs can attract marine life to areas which have a foul bottom with a low oxygen content by providing a non-toxic base for holdfast organisms, barnacles, and mussels, and by offering shelter for fish and invertebrates. This theory was proven to be true by a Florida reef building project. A section of Biscayne Bay, Miami had been dredged from its original depth of 8 to 10 feet to a depth of about 30 feet . The natural coral and limestone bottom was removed, leaving a soft mud which was unsuitable to most of the previously successful organisms. a hard, high profile reef was built on the site, and was soon covered with plant and animal life. As soon as six months after the reef was completed anglers were reportedly catching good quantities of a variety of fish.

Besides improving recreational fishing and renewing depleted fish populations, the construction of artificial reefs can also help to clean up the land environment. Most of the solid, non-toxic junk that eventually ends up in unsightly, overcrowded dumps or on the side of the road somewhere has been used at one time or another as building material for artificial reefs.

As the accompanying New York State Department of Environmental Conservation charts shows, the list of reef building materials is a diversified one. Car and truck bodies make good reefs, but they last only 3 to 6 years in salt water and it is usually more economical to recycle them for scrap metal. Barge loads of rock and building rubble, also make good reefs, as they last indefinitely but their weight makes them expensive to transport. Concrete pipes and custom made fish houses were used with great success on early reefs, but they proved to be too expensive to make and to transport. Old steel and wood barges and boats are excellent reef materials. Their high profile produces favorable currents which attract baitfish and subsequently larger fish.

Without a doubt, scrap auto tires are the most popular and practical reef-building material. Scrap tires are cheap, readily available, non-toxic and last indefinitely. In this country, over 200 million tires are discarded each year. Less then 10 percent are acceptable to retreaders. The remaining tires present a formidable waste disposal problem. They can't be burned because they pollute the air too much; they can't be used in landfills because they do not decompose, and eventually show up on the surface. Those tires which litter roadsides and dumps house rats and catch rainwater which propagates mosquitoes. To date, nearly one million scrap tires have been used in artificial fishing reefs. This may seem like a small percentage, but it is only a beginning. Marine biologist Richard Stone of the Atlantic Fisheries Center in North Carolina has estimated that something in the order of one billion tires could be used in artificial reefs on the east coast alone in the next few years. That would make a significant dent in the scrap tire disposal problem.

The tires are assembled into manageable units in a variety of ways. Some of the units consist of 3-8 tires set in concrete. Another unit in wide use today consists of a bale of about 10 tires, which are tightly compressed and held together with four steel bands. When the tires are taken to the reef site, holes are cut in them to let the air escape, and a ¼ inch polypropylene rope is tied through the tires. When the steel bands corrode and break, the tires expand around the polypropylene rope and form a fan shape. This type of shape offers a maximum amount of nooks and crevices for the fish to hide in.

There is a great need for additional artificial fishing reefs on the east coast.

Turn Page►

Artificial reefs could conceivably restore marine life in the "Dead Sea" area of New York's sludge-dumping grounds. Also, a series of artificial reefs stretching from inshore waters to the edge of the continental shelf might help provide refuge from foreign fleets for fish migrating to and from their offshore spawning and wintering grounds. There would still be plenty of open bottom for domestic trawlers to work, but at least enough fish could survive to maintain the population. The watered-down 200 mile bill put forth by Congress is a poor excuse for a sensible law, as it does not allow for maintenance of a stable breeding population. In reality, the fish will still be in serious trouble if no further action is taken to protect them.

Before you rush out and start dumping cememt blocks and old tires in your favorite bay, let me warn you that federal and state permits are required for legal reef construction. These permits are necessary so the reefs will not interfere with navigation, commercial fishing or other coastal activities. Interested parties should contact the Atlantic Estuarine Fisheries Center, Beaufort, No. Carolina, 28516 for information on how to acquire permits and how to build a reef.

New York State Department of Department of Environmental Conservation

ARTIFICIAL REEF SITES

REEF AREA NUMBER 1
ROCKAWAY BEACH ARTIFICIAL REEF

Location: Atlantic Ocean, offshore Rockaway Beach, Queens County, New York.
Permit Area: 1000 yards by 2000 yards.
Depth of Water: 35 - 38 feet.

Area marked by two (10') spar buoys painted orange and white and lettered SW and SE to designate the southwest and southeast corner of the reef area. The SW corner buoy is approximately 4.6 statute miles on a bearing 85° T. (97° M.) from the Rockaway Inlet gong buoy R "2". (See C. & G. Chart 1215.)
Reef Materials: 2000 (3 auto tires in concrete) units (6000 tires). 420 tons of concrete culvert pipe (pipes vary from 12" to 72" in diameter) (total 200 units), 8 barge loads of concrete rubble (9900 cu. yds.), 60 steel buoys, 25 barge loads of tunnel rock (30,000 cu. yds.).

Species:	Seasons Available:
Blackfish	Spring, Fall
Porgies	Spring, Summer, Fall
Seabass	Spring, Summer, Fall
Cod	Winter
Ling	Fall, Winter, Summer
Whiting	Fall, Winter, Summer
Mackerel	Spring

REEF AREA NUMBER 2
ATLANTIC BEACH ARTIFICIAL REEF

Location: Atlantic Ocean, offshore Atlantic Beach, Nassau County, New York.
Permit Area: 1000 yards by 2000 yards.
Depth of Water: 58 - 65 feet.

The southwest corner of the reef area is marked by the R "4" bell buoy. The R "4" buoy is approximately 3.8 statute miles on a bearing 155° T. (167° M.) from the BW "ER". (See C. & G. Chart 1215.)
Reef Materials: 7 barge loads of car bodies (total 404 cars), 200 tons of concrete culvert and boxes (total 40 units), 35 tire pyramids each consisting of 12 auto tires (total 420 tires), 40' x 170' steel barge, 30,000 auto tires (rod units and singles), 20' x 45' steel barge and 10 truck bodies, 5 (34' x 90') wood barges, 3 (34' x 100') steel barges.

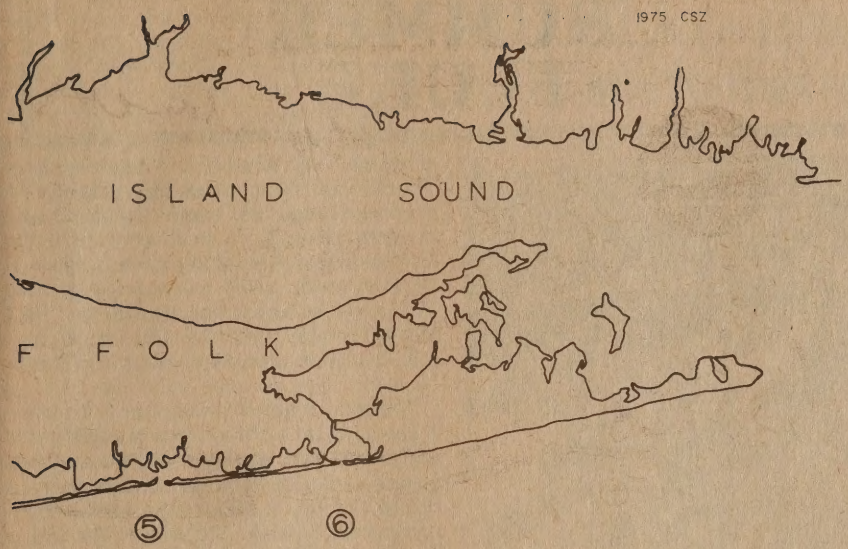
Species:	Seasons Available:
Blackfish	Spring, Fall
Porgies	Spring, Summer, Fall
Seabass	Spring, Summer, Fall
Cod	Winter
Ling	Fall, Winter, Summer
Whiting	Fall, Winter, Summer
Mackerel	Spring.

REEF AREA NUMBER 3
FIRE ISLAND ARTIFICIAL REEF

Location: Atlantic Ocean, offshore Saltaire, Fire Island, Suffolk County, New York.
Permit Area: 1 mile by 1/10 mile.
Depth of Water: 68 - 70 feet.

Area marked by two (10') spar buoys painted orange and white and lettered NW and NE to designate the northwest and northeast corners of the reef area. The NW corner buoy is approximately 4.6 miles on a bearing 108° T. (120° M.) from the Fire Island Inlet bell buoy BW. (See C. & G. Chart 1215.)
Reef Materials: 9 barge loads of rock and building rubble. (26,500 cu. yds.), 500 (3 auto tires in concrete) units (1500 tires), 2 (30' x 90') wood barges, 65' wood hull, 34' x 110' wood barge, 40 x 170' steel barge, 4 (34' x 90') wood barges, 50' x 14' steel dredge.

Species:	Seasons Available:
Blackfish	Spring, Fall
Porgies	Spring, Summer, Fall
Seabass	Spring, Summer, Fall
Cod	Winter
Ling	Fall, Winter, Summer
Whiting	Fall, Winter, Summer
Mackerel	Spring
Fluke	Summer, Fall



REEF AREA NUMBER 4
GREAT SOUTH BAY ARTIFICIAL REEF

Location: Great South Bay, adjacent to Fire Island, Town of Islip, Suffolk County, New York.
Permit Area: 50 yards by 1000 yards.
Depth of Water: 16 - 26 feet.

Two (3') can buoys painted orange and white and lettered SW and SE are maintained to orientate anglers to the southwest and southeast corners of the reef area. The SW corner buoy is approximately 200 yards on a bearing 162° T. (174° M.) from the Farm Shoals black buoy "1". (See C. & G. Chart 120 S.C. Great South Bay).
Reef Materials: 2 wood barges, 20,000 concrete block (8" x 8" x 16"), 1150 (3 auto tires in concrete) units (3450 tires), 940 tons of concrete culvert pipe, 600 auto tires (tied and ballasted in units of 3 - 4 tires each).

Species:	Seasons Available:
Blackfish	Spring, Summer, Fall
Puffer	Spring, Summer
Seabass	Summer, Fall
Bluefish	(Chum - Summer)
Striped Bass	Fall

REEF AREA NUMBER 5
MORICHES ARTIFICIAL REEF

Location: Atlantic Ocean, offshore Moriches Inlet, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York.
Permit Area: 450 yards by 150 yards.
Depth of Water: 72 feet.

A (10') spar buoy painted orange and white and lettered "M" marks the northeast corner of the reef area. The buoy is approximately 2.4 miles on a bearing 199° T. (211 M.) from Moriches Inlet west breakwater light. (See C. & G. Chart 1214).
Reef Materials: 28' wood boat, 32' wood boat, 600 auto tires (units of 3 - 6 tires with reinforcing rods and concrete). Privately funded and installed by Moriches Anglers Club, Inc.

Species:	Seasons Available:
Blackfish	Spring, Summer, Fall
Porgies	Spring, Summer, Fall
Seabass	Spring, Summer, Winter
Cod	Winter

REEF AREA NUMBER 6
SHINNECOCK ARTIFICIAL REEF

Location: Atlantic Ocean, offshore Shinnecock Inlet, Town of Southampton, Suffolk County, New York.
Fermit Area: 450 yards by 150 yards.
Depth of Water: 80 feet.

A (10') spar buoy painted orange and white and lettered "S" marks the reef area. The buoy is approximately 2.6 miles on a bearing 180° T. (192° M.) from Shinnecock Inlet east breakwater light. (See C. & G. Chart 1214).
Reef Materials: 6,000 auto tires (units of 3-8 tires with reinforcing rods and concrete), 110' x 33' wood barge, 33' x 90' wood barge and steel bridge structure. Privately funded and installed by Long Island Fishing Reef Foundation.

Species:	Seasons Available:
Blackfish	Spring, Summer, Fall
Porgies	Spring, Summer, Fall
Seabass	Spring, Summer, Winter
Cod	Winter

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

LATE SUMMER FLUKE

Don't let the balmy days of late summer fool you. Calendar wise, we have the cooling breath of fall waiting in the wings and it won't be long before the winter flounder makes his welcome appearance. In fact, if you're like most fishermen I know, you've already pretied your fluke tackle in preparation for this onslaught. But experienced fishermen know late summer is the time to spend a day or two fishing for better than average fluke. They know, too, that their chances of success are excellent.

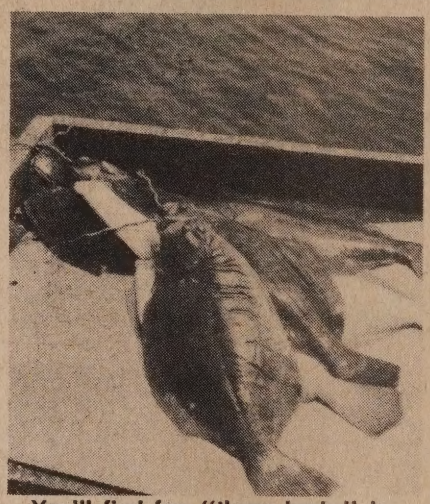
These experienced sinker bouncers also know the places to fish for these fluke are around ocean inlets and adjacent areas. It is on these grounds that fluke are now gathered in preparation for the long haul to wintering grounds along the Continental Shelf, there to take up housekeeping and propagate the species. You'll find few "throw backs" now. This fact alone should give pause to consider the possibilities.

The average fluke caught during late summer can be depended upon to be larger than those taken at the height of the season, with fish of doormat proportions always a distinct possibility. Because you'll be fishing where stronger currents can be expected, sturdier tackle is needed. Medium-weight conventional or spinning gear should be used for best results. In fact, if you have a choice, settle for the conventional stuff. The kind used for sea bass and porgies on the offshore grounds is ideal.

When using conventional tackle, fill a matching reel with at least one hundred yards of good quality twenty pound test mono line. If using spinning equipment, fill the feel with twelve to fifteen pound mono—fifteen preferred.

While on the subject of reels, let me now remind you to be careful of proper drag settings. Don't tighten so that it is impossible for a good sized fish to pull against it. If the fish is large, something will let go; that I can guarantee you. I was witness to just such a calamity several years ago.

One September morning, Nick Hauck and I were drifting live killies along the Breezy Point breakwater. We were doing quite well with three and four pound fluke when Nick tied into a doormat that was larger than we'd seen in years. It probably would have weighed fifteen pounds! I say "probably" because we never did get that fish, and by all rights we should have.



You'll find few "throw backs" in late summer.

I had the net lowered, waiting for Nick to lead that stupendous fish into its gaping mouth, when it suddenly took notice of our evil intentions and dived, bringing into play the enormous strength all large fluke possess. It was tug-of-war for a few frenzied seconds, with the rod bowed and Nick holding on for dear life, doubtless as startled as the intended victim. He groped and pawed frantically at the drag, but it was already too late. The hook pulled free, and through the air sailed the released terminal tackle, the sinker landing in the bow with a fearful whack. "I forgot to set the damn drag," Nick admitted, which was the lesser of many uncomplimentary remarks directed to his stupidity and to fish and fishing in general.

So much for proper drag settings. Truly, a word to the wise is sufficient.

I'm a great believer in the regular shanked Sproat hook for fluke, but not when late summer fluke fishing around inlets. Give me a long shanked 4/0 Carlisle every time. Not that the proper Sproat won't hold an outsized fluke, there's no complaint in that department; but have you ever seen those wicked looking teeth in that enormous mouth and honestly not thought twice about removing the hook? Believe me, they're downright scary. Better have a good hook disgorger or needle-nose pliers handy to be on the safe side.

As the fisherman should pay special attention to the hook he selects, so should he regard the particular length of his leader. Most sinker bouncers get along well with a two or three foot leader when fluke fishing inside bays and other sheltered areas, but I'm a firm believer in using a four foot leader when fishing around inlets and along ocean jetties. Once someone asked me why this extra length was so important, and for the life of me I couldn't tell him. But I do know this longer leader does make a difference.

The four footer is difficult to find, but if you join two eighteen inch leaders and add an ordinary snelled hook of the right size, you will come close enough to the desired length. This is a temporary method, to be sure, but will do the job. Better yet, this winter when you find yourself pacing the floor in anticipation of spring, get in touch with Midland Tackle Company, 66 Route 17, Sloatsburg, New York 10974 and request a copy of their catalog. In it you will find 42 inch leader material listed in weights from 20 to 60 pounds. Twenty pound test is what you want. Make two end loops with either a double overhand knot (pulled up slowly) or use Perfection Loops, thereby giving your leaders a professional looking appearance. Add a suitable snelled hook and you'll be in business.

Sinkers are no problem, although there is more to these bits of lead than meets the eye. Make certain the weight used is sufficient to hold the rig on the bottom when drifting. This will often vary from hour to hour, depending on several factors, such as rate or drift due to an increase or decrease in wind and current strength. Don't overload your line with unnecessary weight, however. If a four ounce sinker will do, don't use a six. You'll only cut into your fun, if you do.

You will find the popular bank-style will do its job well, but any sinker can be used except the surf caster's pyramid style. This five sided sinker is ideal for anchoring itself in the sand, which is fine for the surf caster, but not for you. It's also notorious for gathering copious amounts of weed and other debris. Stay with the bank sinker and you are certain to be more successful, and with a lot less annoyance.

Place your leader about three inches above the sinker, with or without the aid of a three way swivel. If you use a double-overhand knotted loop instead, be sure the knot is pulled up slowly.

Fishermen use many baits to entice these late summer fluke, but I don't

elieve a finer bait can be found than the and eel at this time of year. You'll find, oo, that this is what your fluke will be eeding on. But don't worry if you find and eels unavailable. Live killies have rought many ocean fluke to the net. arge, frozen spearing are also good, roviding they aren't in too soft a ondition upon thawing. They are hard o fish in this condition. It is recommen- led you bring along more than one bait vhen fluke fishing. This is what most xperienced fluke fishermen do. They eave nothing to chance. If you do this, it von't matter too much if your spearing hould be too soft, or if the fish show a lesire for another bait.

Four inch strip baits cut from the belly f a fluke or squid produce well. And lon't forget the fish-catching ability of ea robin tails. Cut each strip in half, engthways, and use the lighter part irst. Whole, small snappers, or fillets sliced from larger ones have lured many ate summer fluke to the hook. I know one fisherman who makes it a point to use small, live bergalls which he drifts close to the inlet breakwaters and along ocean jetties. He seems always to produce several outsized fluke in a days ishing.

Live killies and bergalls should be carefully hooked through the mouth and out the gill cover. They will live a good, ong time if this is done without nicking the gills. Spearing, sand eels and whole snappers should be hooked once through the head, preferably through the eyes, and then back again about mid point in the body.

Strips of fish bait are always hooked once, and once only, through the widest part. This allows it to flutter along the bottom without spinning. Don't forget to impart plenty of action with these baits. Jigging with one foot lifts of the rod tip should always be done. When weight is felt, allow a few feet of slack, then wait a few seconds. This is necessary to give the fish time to get the bait down. Check again for weight and then set the hook with a quick lift of the rod. It isn't necessary to strike hard; the fluke will have hooked itself.

When fishing near jetties and breakwaters, drift as close as it is possible to do so in safety. This is where the largest fluke lie, waiting for unsuspecting bergalls, small blackfish, sea bass, and other prey. Observe all safety precautions. If the seas are breaking over the rocks, stay away. Either get on the lee side, or make your drift at a safe distance. Don't take chances!

The days for fluke fishing this summer are now numbered. They'll soon be moving offshore, not to return until next spring. It's a long wait, especially for the dedicated fluke fisherman. If you consider yourself in this category, give them a try now. You may well catch your largest fluke of the season.

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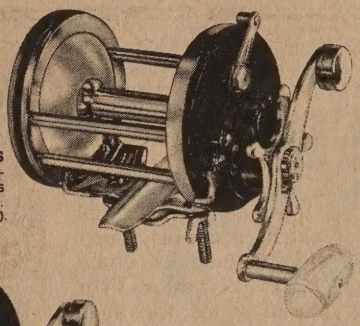

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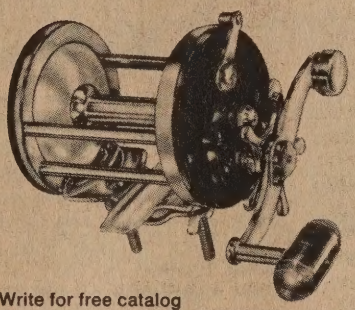

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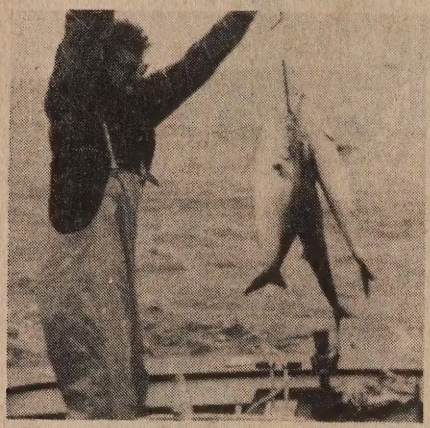
MONTAUK REPORT

by Scott Simons

The action out east has been holding steady, with all species providing very good to excellent catches with the exception of the almost impossible-to-find striped bass. Offshore fishing for sharks has remained consistently good, with schools of albacore, blackfin and bluefin tuna providing quite a bit of action south of Block Island. Bluefish has still been hot and cold at night, but has shown improvement. Big choppers are being taken on herring and small bunker at Cartwright in large numbers. Sub Buoy blues erratic, Southeast Light off Block Island not as reliable as it was last week. Large amounts of weakfish by Montauk standards are being taken trolling and diamond jigging at and south of the Sub Buoy, Midway Rips and stray fish popping up just about anywhere. Codfishing at Coxes Ledge remains excellent, with pool fish consistently running in the 40 to mid-50 pound range. Fluke fishing excellent, excellent, excellent, with doormats of 8 and 10 lbs. not even turning a head these days. The fluke are all over the north side at the North Rips, Midway Rips, Pollack Rip, Great Eastern, in front of the refreshment stand south of can #3 and the first showing of fluke moving around to the



Terry Fitzsimons with a 30 lb. triple taken aboard Capt. Frank Braddick's charterboat Hurry Up out of Montauk.

Shown here are Mauree Theiling with a 40 lb. cod and Comma Perkins with the pool winning 41 lb. cod taken aboard the z''peconic Queen III''.

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The line you see is the line you control.

southside this weekend. Porgy fishing consistent in the usual haunts, sea bass all over the place with catches measured in the hundreds of pounds coming off the high grounds that they prefer. Snappers galore in the Lake, some tinker, both excellent bait for doormats and weakfish in the area.

Captain Dick vigilant of the **Triton II** reported that he has been taking a lot of weakfish mixed with the blues diamond jigging around Midway, Grat Eastern and the Sub Buoy, but you have to cruise around and watch the paper recorder for the pods of fish. The herring baits have started to produce excellent catches again at Cartwright. On Saturday night 60 blues were taken that weighed between 12 and 20 lbs. They also had three sharks on, landing one brown shark of 80 lbs. Due to a cancellation, the **Triton II** has an open date for this Sunday, Sept. 6th. So if you have a small or large group that wants to do some fluking or load up on monster Montauk blues, give the skipper a call.

Captain John DeMaio reported that his charters have been doing a job with the diamond jigs, loading up on bluefish and weakfish in the Submarine Buoy area. Very few bass are around, but the fluke fishing remains fantastic. John reports that he has booked up most of October all ready for the fall bass run, so if you were planning a trip you better hurry if you don't want to be shut out.

On Saturday Captain Ron Grandinetti of the **Julie III** had a party of 5 from the N.Y.C. Transit Authority headed by Martin Reed aboard that caught 550 lbs. of large sea bass fishing the southside. On Sunday he had a party of 6 from the N.Y.C. Transit led by Ziggy Landrus

Paul McGuire, 10, with his first bluefish caught aboard the "Viking Star" along with his father.

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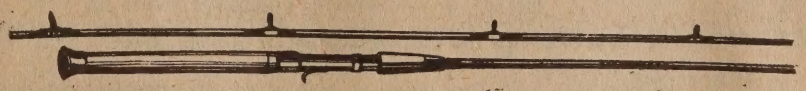

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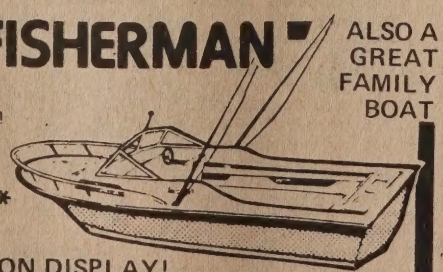

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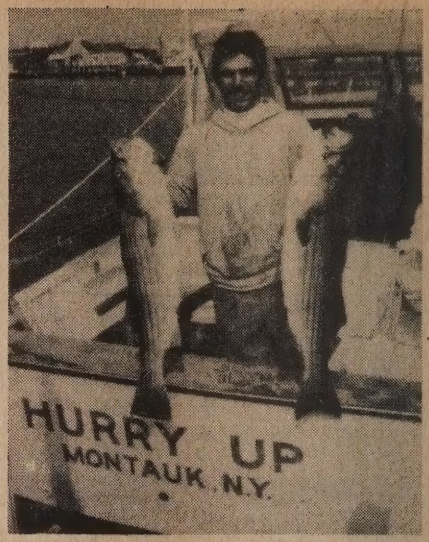


Tom Pennino took these bass in the 25 lb. range on a recent charter aboard Capt. Frank Braddick's "Hurry Up".

aboard that took 73 fluke fishing at Midway, and nine of the fish ranged from 5½ to 8 pounds.

Captain Richie Nessel of the **Captain Spider** reported that fluke fishing remains excellent in the No. Rip, Midway Rips and the Pollack Rip, with a large number of doormats mixed in the catches. Some nice seabass are also mixed in with the fluke.

Captain Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fishing Fleet** reported that the **Viking Starlite** has been murdering the fluke during their half-day trips, with some really huge doormats coming over the rails. Night fishing with bait for the bluefish has been erratic, great one night and poor the next, which has been the consistent pattern this year. Codfishing remains at excellent proportions at Coxes Ledge with a lot of hangers lining the rail daily.

Captain Lester Behan of the **Peconic Queen III** said that the codfishing at Coxes Ledge has been fantastic with pool fish always in the 40's and up to 52 pounds during the week. Bluefish of the finest kind are all over the ledge and being taken on clam baits, many in the 20 to 25 lb. class. Bluefishing has improved at night, but is still far from great by Montauk standards.

"Excellent fluke fishing", is the word out of **Cove Marina.** On Sunday Captain Lenny's boat "Scrambler" had 52 fluke, many 6 to 10 pounds. Thursday was a particularly hot day for fluking at Midway, the No. Rips and Great Eastern. 12 year old Billy Saputo took one of 15½ pounds in the No. Rips on a whole smelt. Big weakfish and sea bass are also mixed with the fluke at Midway. Plenty of action offshore with the sharks, and the tuna have finally arrived in the waters south of Block Island. Last

weekend Ronnie DeLuca took a giant of 136 pounds there, and during the week some of the boats murdered albacore and school size blackfin and bluefin tuna in the same area. Ronnie's fish was taken on a whole squid rigged by Cove Marina, but fish are being taken both trolling and chumming. Local boats have been murdering the bluefish with herrig baits at Cartwright during the day, many of the catches in the 80's and 90's. Captain John Sweetman of the charterboat **Ebb Tide** has been mixing his charters between sharking one day and bluefishing another, with excellent results for both.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club** called to tell us that the bluefish have settled in at Cartwright and the offshore boats began making scattered catches of bluefin tuna in the 30 lb. class during the week. The **Marie II** had 1 of her usual catches on Saturday afternoon with 60 bluefish 2 big weakfish and 1 bonita. The **Hi-Lee** took 30 bluefish on Saturday and dropped a weakfish with an estimated weight of 15 pounds when an attempt was made to lift it into the boat. On Saturday the **Bumblebee** trolled 45 bluefish and 3 big weakfish at the Submarine Buoy. The **Lady Lee** took 30 blues at Cartwright on herring, which has been a consistent bait and area. On Thursday the **Blue Fin** boated 3 bluefin tuna in the 30 lb. class trolling feathers and cedar jigs 170 degrees, 30 miles from the Point. Other boats out of Montauk's Largest Marina, took scattered school tuna trolling during the week, but no one has tried chumming and chunking. The **April II** took a 251 lb. blue shark on Sunday twenty five miles south of the Point. Sharks are being taken every day offshore and many are being tagged and released.

"They're here again" according to Captain Murray Homelsky of the charterboat **Cherokee.** The hurricane made the sharks scarce, but once again all the

Captain Frank Maccaro and mate Mike with the 300 lb. hammerhead shark they harpooned on the "Free Spirit" charterboat. The moster was stuck after trying to bait him for two hours.

THE SAND...
THE SUN...THE SURF...AND THE
STATION WITH SPIRIT

WGLI HITS THE BEACH

Every Saturday...all summer long...WGLI will broadcast directly from Babylon's Cedar Beach Overlook from sunrise till 7 pm. Come down and join us. We'll help you get there with special traffic and parking reports. We'll keep you up-to-date with marine forecasts, surfing conditions and special bulletins every quarter-hour of the day. And we'll continue to play the music you like to swim to or tan by.

It's our season in the sun...come join us!

WGLI 1290

The Long Island FISHERMAN

FISHING TRIP CONTEST

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.

★ Bonus Prize ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT, the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat & surf!!!

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:
The person with the license plate No. 989-QOB failed to call into LIF by Friday, so there is no winner this week. Next week's winner will receive $20 instead of the usual $10 plus a fishing trip for two.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:
803-APS

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK
Viking Star
Peconic Queen III
Marlin III

CAPTREE
Speedy VI
Capt. Ben Litwin
Capt. Joseph Fleet

SHEEPSHEAD BAY
Amberjack IV
Chief

FREEPORT Aloma II

NORTH SHORE
Port Jeff Ace
Betty W

Announcing The Long Island FISHERMAN's

SKILLFUL ANGLING AWARD ☆

MINIMUM WEIGHTS FOR SPECIES

The minimum acceptance weights for anglers to receive a Skillful Angling Award and patch are:

FLOUNDER	2	STRIPED BASS	25
FLUKE	6	BLUEFISH	10
PORGY	3	WEAKFISH	7
BLACKFISH	6	POLLACK	18
COD	25	SEA BASS	3

Long recognizing the plight of the inshore fisherman, whose outstanding catches are often overshadowed by those of the glamorous billfishes, giant tuna and monster sharks, The Long Island Fisherman has started a program awarding "Skillful Angling Awards" to anglers in recognition of outstanding catches that may otherwise have gone unnoticed.

Minimum acceptance weights have been established for the various inshore species. As you can see, they have been set high enough to preserve the integrity and value of the award, while still being low enough to give all anglers a chance of having a fish recognized. Angers that catch a fish that officially weighs more than the minimum acceptance weight for that species will recieve a "Skillful Angling Award" certificate suitable for framing and an embroidered patch with The Fisherman logo to wear on his jacket.

Numerous Official Weigh-In Stations have been established all over Long Island for the convenience of our readers. Each has an accurate scale that has met the requirements set down by The Fisherman, and can be identified by the plaque that is shown in the photo below that will be displayed in the premises. A complete listing of the present Official Weigh-In Stations also appears below, and will be periodically updated as new weigh-in stations meet the requirements.

Here's how the program works. When you catch a fish that you think may weigh more than the minimum requirement for that species (see the inset), take it to one of the weigh-stations listed below to have it officially weighed-in. If it meets the requirements, a post card will be filled out and signed by the proprietor and given to you to mail to The Fisherman. When we recieve the card and it is verified, a "Skillful Angling Award" certificate will be made out with the information from the card and sent with the patch directly to you from the offices of the Fisherman. That's it!

OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN STATION

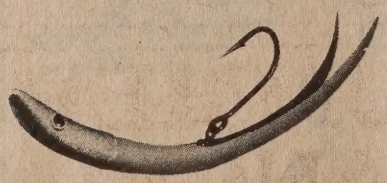
These establishments are the OFFICIAL WEIGH-IN STATIONS for The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN. Look for the plaque like the one in the photo at left, and bring in your fish to the establishment nearest you to have it officially weighed-in & recorded.

George Combs B & T, Amityville
Santo's Sport Shop, Staten Island
Ronnie's B & T, Huntington Station
Frank's Marina, Freeport
Augie's B & T, Babylon
Merrick Marine Supply, Bellmore
Four Winds B & T, Huntington Station
Beckman's Tackle, Lynbrook
Wet-A-Line B & T, East Islip
Bowman's Sporting Goods, Northport
Warren's Tackle, Aquebogue
Eddie's Marine, Far Rockaway
Rocky Pt. Fishing Stop, Rocky Point
Arthur Street Marina, Baldwin
Silly Lily F.S., East Moriches
Smokey's B & T, Bayshore
Ed's F.S., Pt. Lookout
South Bay F.S., W. Sayville
Bay End Dock, Brooklyn
Salice Boat Basin, Seaford
Crossbay B & T, Howard Beach
Charlie's B & T, Lindenhurst
Long Island Sea Clam, Pt. Lookout
Dick's Sporting Goods, Miller Place
J.J. Burck, Inc., Bronx
American Sportsman Shop, Sayville
Hi-Hook F.S., Babylon
Tadsen's Fishing Station, E. Moriches
Shelter Cove Marina, Bronx
Jack's B & T, City Island
Mako Marina, Freeport
Jim's Tackle Haven, Pt. Lookout
Corr's Fishing Station, Hampton Bays
Jonas B & T, Amityville
Noyac Marina, Sag Harbor
Cove Marina, Montauk
Frank's F.S., Hampton Bays
Frank Braddick Tackle Shop, Huntington
Eddie's Marine, Pt. Lookout
Promised Land F.S., Amagansett
Port of Egypt F.S., Southold
Hook Line and Sinker, Freeport
Starfish Marine, E. Islip
Capt. Marty's F.S., New Suffolk
Angler's Den, Selden
Salvo's B & T, Brooklyn
Stella Maris, Brooklyn
Star Island Yacht Club, Montauk

boats sharking are getting their share of fish. For the past two weeks the lowest shark score aboard the **Cherokee** has been two blue sharks, and during this period makos and browns, etc., have been taken. Bluefish have been busting all around the Southeast Light off Block Island and some trips have been producing more than 100 bluefish. The area between the Point and the Sub buoy has been producing good catches at different times at different locations. The Captain is now looking for the start of the fall bass run, which is just around the corner.

Charterboat **Free Spirit** called to inform us that Tuesday saw one blue shark taken at the Butterfish Hole. Three additional sharks were taken in the 200 lb. class and four others cut off. On Wednesday 25 bluefish were trolled at the Sub Buoy, 15 to 18 pounds. Captain Frank Fished Thursday east of the Butterfish Hole and baited two swords on rigged balao and squid, but the swords threw the hook. On Sunday a blue and brown shark were taken.

Viking Skipper II reports that on Sunday was the best of the weekend. They fished in the area of the lighthouse. Anglers on all the porgy boats from Montauk did super. Bags were loaded and some buckets were filled a couple of times over. The big jumbo porgy went 3 pounds 3 ounces. Looks like the fall run



SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

PROMISED LAND

Promised Land Fishing Station reports fluke fishing has been very good this past week. Carl Vogt and Bob Muller had approximately 70 keepers between them. They drifted the rips south of Cartwright using spearing and sand eels. Loads of porgies from pin sized to 2 lbs. These are being taken at Gardiner's where they are larger. Scattered catches of 2 lb. blues have been had during the week.

SAG HARBOR

Noyac Marina says that there are porgies, weaks and snappers to be had. Snapper blues sometimes appear in the rips. Weakfishing is mainly drifting from buoy 16 to the Monastary or from the Monastary to the Pink House. There are loads of small porgies but also plenty of good sized fish to be had.

SHINNECOCK

Altenkirch Tackle reports striped bass of 8 to 10 lbs. being trolled on tubes in the inlet. On Friday Frank Vukoff took a 39 lb. bass there. Off shore there are quite a few albacore in approximately 160 feet of water. Larry Furman on the Full House took quite a few of these.

The Captain Clark Boats reports that the weakfishing was very good during the week with over 100 fish coming aboard daily but the weakie catches were down somewhat on the weekend as usual. Porgy fishing has been very good with average catches of about 40 a man with the little scrappers mixed sizes. Kingfishing is the best in years with about 30 fish ranging from 1 to 1¼ pounds coming aboard every day. Captain Clark also reported they are starting to see the first blackfish mixed in the catches of porgies, a good sign for the fall black run. The porgies are best around the wrecks and the weakfish are in 60 feet of water around Nassau Point and are being taken on whole worms or squid strips.

HAMPTON BAYS

Corr's Fishing Station reports good catches of fluke in Shinnecock Bay. They say try the East Channel on rising tide and the Coast Guard Station and West of Ponoquogue Bridge on a falling tide. Shiners or live killies with a squid strip are your best baits. Bring along your spinning gear as the snappers are now quite large. Try the Ponoquogue Bridge area or Heady Creek near the reservation.

Good fluke fishing in the East Channel and the Basket area according to **Tony's Fishing Station**. Marie and Ben Mendal took 17 keepers from the East Channel on Saturday using spearing and squid. Smelts or live killies are also good baits. There are plenty of snappers to be had.

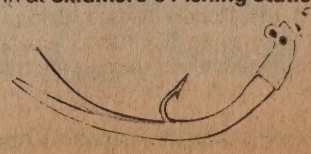
EAST HAMPTON

Bill at **Three Mile Harbor Fishing Station** reports good porgy fishing from Gardiner's to Cedar Point. Some 2 lb. porgies have been taken at Cedar Point along with a few weaks. Fluke fishing in Gardiner's Bay is good from buoy 2 to Lion Head Rock. About half of these are keepers and are best taken with squid and spearing combo. Snappers are all over. Bill wants to remind everyone that they have small flounders all summer in the harbor.

MORICHES BAY

Cerullo Brothers Fishing Station reports fluke fishing is good in the New Cut between the inlet and the sand bar. There is also good fishing to be had south of buoy 29. Although the throwbacks remain the same the fish are getting bigger.

John at **Skidmore's Fishing Station** says



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there is pretty good fluke fishing drifting from the Elbow to Harts Cove. Between buoys 36 and 39 is good flounder fishing while east of 42 there are porgies and sea bass. Fluke are best taken on spearing or smelts with squid. The flounder and porgies will take bloodworms while squid is good for the sea bass and porgies.

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports still good action on blowfish, between buoys 30 and 20 in the channel. Weaks, kings, sea bass and porgies are all hitting squid on hi-lo rigs. For fluke, it's mainly west of Ocean Beach on the Fire Island side. A fall mixed bag. All boats are returning with a variety.

WEST SAYVILLE

Marty at **South Bay Fishing Station** tells of weaks to 3 pounds and kings to 1½ pounds at buoys 24, 25 and 29 on squid on hi-lo rigs with outgoing tide working best. Lots of blowfish—yes blowfish on clam at buoy 24. Snappers and crabs at the town docks and getting bigger all the time. Some small sized sea bass in the same area. The fluking has been picky this week in South Bay's area.

EAST ISLIP

Don at Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle tells of weaks at buoys 29 and 30 on squid, off La Salle Academy at Oakdale. Bluefish are being taken in the inlet on trolled umbrellas and white bucktails. Fluking is still good from the lighthouse to the inlet on sandeels.

CAPTREE

The Captain Joseph Fleet informs us that fluking remains very good from the Lighthouse to the mouth of the inlet. Fish averaging 2 to 2½ pounds with a few kingfish mixed in.

The **Lady Ann** reports fluking continues very good on the last of the flood and the beginning of the ebb, from the mouth of the inlet to the State Channel with killie and squid combos working best. Day bluefishing is inconsistent with good days and slow days alternating. Night blues are running anywhere from 50 to 100 fish per trip but these are big chummed fish. Even so, night blues have picked up tremendously from what they were, fishing west of the NB Buoy roughly 13 miles south of the inlet.

The **Captain Ben Litwin** reports that there are plenty of fluke being taken around the Robert Moses Bridge and Inlet, with some big fish of six and 7 pounds mixed in. All the anglers that are aboard and fishing are going home with nice catches of fish.

Captain George Roman of the **Captree Queen** reported that fluke fishing is still good from the area around the Lighthouse to the inlet. The end and begining of both tides is producing best, and all aboard are taking home decent bags of fish. Killies or sand eels, combined with a strip of squid or fluke are the hot bait combinations.

BAY SHORE

Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports fluking a little spottier this past week but fish are mainly all decent size from the

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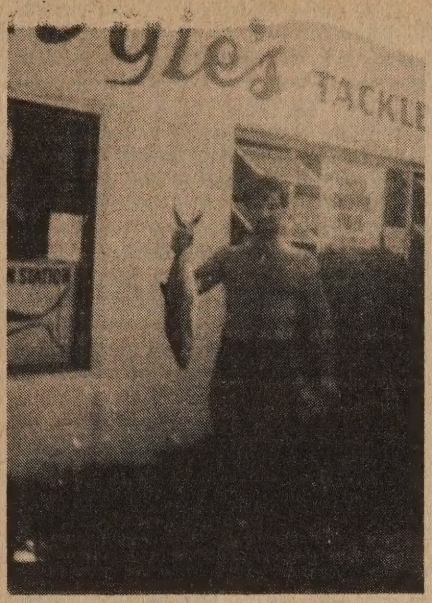


Steve Maggio of Farmingdale took this 5 lb. 13 oz. spanish mackerel aboard the "J & B" in 60 ft. of water by the Gilgo outfall pipe. Photo courtesy of Augies Bait and Tackle.

bridge to the inlet, with the top of the flood and the beginning of the ebb best. The hole in front of the Lighthouse on the inside is producing good weakfish using live snappers. Blues at the NB Buoy for those chumming south of the inlet. Some bonita and albacore off the beach for trollers. Snappers and crabs in the bay and at local docks still good and getting better. Some small bass on wire and bucktails early in the morning. Some small porgies on sandworms on the reef.

BABYLON

Mario at **High-Hook Fishin Station** tells us that on Saturday, Sal, Joe, John and Jim in one boat had 27 keeper fluke on smelts and squid off the Coast Guard Station. Buddies Sal, and Marie had 42 sand porgies from the East West Channel on clam and squid. It was a good weekend fish wise. Some weakfish have been taken this week from Snake Hill and Dickersons Channel. On Sunday three kings, 8 sea bass and 4 fluke dwere brought in on one skiff fishing Snake Hill area. Crabs in traps off the Babylon Pool and the East West Channel.

LIF Staffer Stu Miller fished Fire Island Inlet on Saturday with 8 fat keepers and 1 large midget fishing the last of incoming and the start of the ebb, fishing from the Lighthouse to the mouth of the Inlet on sea robin belly and killies.

Charlie's Fishing Station reports Bill Neutter of No. Babylon had a mixed bag of weaks, fluke, and sea bass on Thursday taken from the State Channel on squid and sand eels. John Owsinski and Hal Murphy of Brooklyn loaded up on crabs Saturday. Charlie's skiffs ae are mainly bringing in fluke and crabs. Best area for weaks is the East West Channel.

OAKBEACH

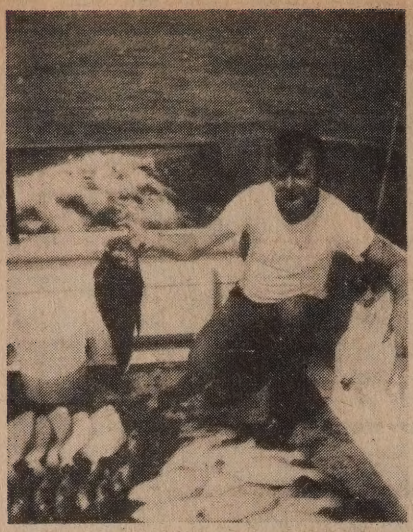
Bill at **The Store** tells of a few stripers taken from Cedar Beach surf, a 32 pounder, a 29 and various others from 15 to 20 pounds, all on bunker chunks, with the best being incoming tide. Fluking is still very good at the Sore Thumb and at the mouth of the inlet from boats. Casters are doing well on the inlet side of **The Store,** the Sore Thumb and from the rock jetties on squid and spearing, all tides. Some kingfish up to 2 pounds, up to 7 per man at the Sore Thumb with live snappers or squid strips accounting for good sized weakfish in this area. Snappers are all over the place wherever there is a bulkhead and some fairly deep water. Lots of bait in the water, and crabs best in the Oak Island cut.

Howie's Fishing Station informs us that Bill and Many Zwick of the Bronx boated 8 kings, 48 big blowfish at buoy 5 on clam on Saturday, fishing four rods. Action was fast and frantic. Weakfish are being caught at the mouth of Oakdale's Conequot River on squid strips.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait and Tackle tells us that Les Berrent of the Babylon Tuna Club on the "My-Way" had corrections officer Gary Ward, Tom Ward and Cyrl Obarle out shark fishing and ended up with 14 bluefish up to 12½ pounds fishing 130 feet of water southwest of the inlet on chum. Frank Said of Lindenhurst and 8 year old son took 7 weakfish up to 9 pounds on Saturday on white umbrellas at Fire Island Inlet. Joe Gialonzo and pals Ted B., Vinny D. and Fred B. mohawked weakfish this past week in Fire Island Inlet with Joe pulling a real lunker out of the water on live bunker, the fish weighing 17 pounds 8 ounces. It is your reporter's considered opinion that Joe Gialonzo ranks as one of Long Island's top weakfishermen. Lots of fluke from the lighthouse to the Sore Thumb. Crabbing excellent at Bergen Point, Wellwood Avenue Dock, along with lots of snappers. A lot of 1 to 1½ pound porgies, particularly at the Copiague Hole on worms and squid.

The open boat **Sea Horse** has been doing very well all week on fluke with scores excellent Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, action slowing up a little from Thursday through Sunday, though still pretty good. The highlight of the week was a 9 pounder taken on Monday.



Kenneth McVey of Canarsie took this 4 lb. 2 oz. seabass aboard the "Lady Ann".

Hi hooks have been 20 to 30 keepers per man with fish running an average of 2 pounds each. The flood and first of the ebb are working best. Since the hurricane the fluking has been excellent.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait and Tackle tells of very good weakfishing at the 3rd Wantagh Bridge on live bunker or live snapper on hi-lo rigs, with sandworm also doing a job. The hole off the Lighthouse is also producing good weakfish activity. The fluking at Squaw Island and Goose Creek, along with Four Corners is putting fish in the boat as is Fire Island Inlet on the flood. Snappers are growing larger and the town docks are producing well as are the flats.

COPIAGUE

Jonas Bait and Tackle tells us that on Saturday Joe Diaz of Copiague took 50 blackfish up to 4 pounds at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers on high slack and outgoing. On Sunday, George Mills, Richie, Big John, Little John and Joe the clammer bagged 100 pounds of blackfish along with some porgies and some sea bass on the Kismet Reef on high slack and outgoing on fiddlers also. Saturday morning a 5½ pound weakfish was taken by a caster at the Copiague Beach. Lots of small sand porgies from the Copiague Pier and from boats. Fluking is good and is spread all over with some areas better than others. A few bass have fallen to clam bellies in the Measured Mile.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle reports excellent snapper fishing just about everywhere, particularly Zach's Bay and the Alhambra Cove and Florence Beach. Fluking is fair at Haunts and Goose Creeks and in Jones Inlet. Still a few weakfish at night on bottom fished worms at the bridges. Blues have been chummed and trolled south of the Jones Tower in 50 feet of water. Fluke have been taken at the pipeline on smelts and big killies, while crabbing has been very good in the canals, bulkheads and flats and will increase even more so through October. Some chummed bass at the bridges and at the State Channel, but nothing tremendous. The change to fall weather should give action a real shot in the arm. Small porgies in the bays on worms and clam.

Captain Eddie's Fishing Station tells us that East Rutherford N.J. sharpie Mr.

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Goldbeck and two kids this past week went hi-hook for the season with 57 keeper fluke taken while anchored and fishing with live killies at the edge of Great Island Channel, pole 16. They were letting lightly sinkered fluke rigs be carried by the current off the edge of the channel, down along the embankment of the channel and "POW". In general the fluking has been fair to good all week. Crabbing and snapper fishing has been good in Great Island Channel and at Four Corners.

Last Wednesday the Squadron Anglers of Seaford had their Second Annual Fishing Trip for the boys and girls from St. Christopher's Home in Sea Cliff. There were 28 children ranging from 5 to 11 years of age and 9 supervisors from St. Christopher's. In addition, a team of Squadron Anglers provided the fishing help headed by President High Diamond Past President Fred Dombo, Tom Avellino, Ed Tomaczk and junior member Joe Hutnick.

The weather was beautiful and the fluke kept coming over the rail all day. While the percentage of shorts were high the children returned to St. Christopher's with more than fifty keepers ready for the oven.

Even though this was the first time fishing for most of the children, they did remarkably well. However, two rods did manage to go overboard. Yet both were recovered a short time later. Luck? I wonder. The only mishap was that Hugh Diamond ran a cropper of a crab's claw again. This happened last year. I guess some people learn slowly!

This trip was made possible through the generosity of Captain Anold Rydberg of the 55 foot charter boat "Atlantic." Bait was donated by Lou Stalker of the Charwin Fishing Station. Rods and reels were provided by Bob Kay, Dockmaster of the Freeport Boatmen's Association of which Captain Rydberg is a member.

In addition, each child received a free windbreaker jacket. This was arranged by Mr. Jim Burke, President of Team Products, Inc. compliments of David Peyser Sportswear.

And finally free candy was provided by Peter Paul, Inc., A wonderful day was had by all, especially for the children. A day well spent to say the least.

MASSAPEQUA

Massapequa Tackle and Sports informs us that at the John Burns Park Pier big snappers are being taken on live killies. These snappers are running 10 to 12 inches. Good fluking behind Squaw Island and bigger fish now at Jones Inlet on killies, sandeels and squid. Last of the outgoing is the best tidal stage. The bays are still holding sea bass and flounder action is starting. Weakfish at the bridges at night on sandworms, best 1 hour each side of the high slack. Wierd catch of the week was a 73 pound stingray taken in Jones Inlet on a fluke rig at Short Beach Coast Guard Station with smelt bait. This baby was hooked by 5 year old Anthony Riggio and he was helped by Uncle George Steinenger. Lots of crabs in the bay in any hole with traps or killie rings. The store's snapper derby which was held this past Sunday was a huge success with over 300 snappers entered. The first prize winner of Rod and Reel was an 11½ inch snapper taken by Robert Wyan of Massapequa.

MERRICK

Roy at **Merrick Marine Supplies** reports that big fluke are now being taken in Jones Inlet on live killies. On Sunday, Merrick angler George Harkoff had a leap job going all by himself in the inlet, exact spot unknown but area of the barges is a good guess.

BALDWIN

Andy at **Arthur Street Fishing Station** reports 27 big blues to 17 pounds jigged and trolled Saturday aboard Captain Jim Johnson's private boat Seaquest, fishing the Manasquan Ridge. Lots of fluke taken all this past week right through Sunday in Middle Bay on killies and squid with incoming working best. The fish are a lot fatter now. Lots of crabs and snappers around and this cooler weather should afford good mixed bags.

Eric Haas caught this fluke while fishing with squid by bouy 5 near Jones Inlet. Subscriber Club Photo.

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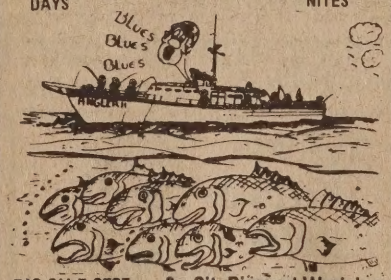

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Jerry Riccio and party with a mixed bag taken aboard the Jonny K II. The catch consisted of weaks, blues and a striper. Photo courtesy of John and Al Sport Shop.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Your reporter fished on Captain Sy Carlin's **Bluefin II** on Wednesday with fluke as the target. Highlights of the trip were Ken Rhodes Sr. of Lindenhurst as high hook with 9 keeper fluke and young Thomas Schwaner with a 6½ pound fat fluke taken roughly 2 miles south of Jones Inlet, all on spearing and squid baits. The charter was from the Freeport PBA.

Captain John of the **Miss Freeport** reports that fluke fishing has been excellent all week, with several double headers taken. The fishing has been local, both inside and outside the inlet. John's wife told me that the fish must be big because Captain John is bringing home nice big fillets.

The **Aloma** reports excellent fluking Monday outside Jones Inlet, with 2 happy anglers going home with 17 pounds of fillet. That's a lot of fish. Tuesday and Wednesday slowed down a little, Thursday picked up while Friday the action was very good for fluke off Riis Park. Saturday saw very good fishing outside Jones Inlet, and the action on the fluke got picky on Sunday. Most fish however, are running two to four pounds, and Saturday six to eight fish per man was average. Captain Paul sees about another month of good fluking. The **Aloma II** is loading up every day with good catches of sea bass and porgies.

The **Starstream II** tells us that the bluefishing is up and down. Sunday saw over 300 blues from 1 to 3 pounds come over the rail up until 11 am, after which time it was a search job. On Friday they had over 300 of these blues again. This was all jig fishing. Another day they had a solid 200 fish of the same size class. In between the catches were picky and fewer. Captain Richie describes the fishing as erratic and unpredictable from day to day. On Friday there were 3 to 8 pound weakfish mixed in with the blues. Roughly 40 were hooked, roughly 20 were boated. Days are better than nights this season. There is no pattern to the action apparently, says Richie.

Freeport Boatmen's Association dockmaster Bob Kay reports that the fluking has been very good for the Association boats all week right through the weekend. On Saturday, good bluefish catches were made off Jersey on chum and locally trolling and jigging. A few bonita were sighted within 5 miles of Jones Inlet. The Atlantic reported the HB buoy area showing a lot of life now, and action should be getting a whole lot better with this change in weather. It's also anticipated and hoped for that the bluefish will be responding more heavily to chum in Jersey and local waters.

The Captain Al reports that early in the week he has been jigging blues at Seabright, but that in the later part of the week and the weekend, the fish have again responded to chum and are from 12 to 14 pounds on chum off Seabright. There are 2 to 3 fish on all the time, reports Al, while either drifting or anchored. Catches are from 3 to 8 per man. Still lots of fish at Sandy Hook, but these are the small variety. Saturday at the Gas Buoy, Al says he had a good fast half hours fishing with big fish on chum but he ended it up with a lot of smaller fish on jigs. He has just completed two solid days of chumming at Seabright with steady results and Al says it looks as though a large school of big choppers has settled in, and that they are now

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responding well to chum. The day fishing is better and there are still loads of small blues around that area.

Charterboat **Captain II** has been having good results locally on small blues and on fluke just a little ways offshore.

POINT LOOKOUT

Eds Fishing Station reports pretty good fluke fishing has been had in Middle Bay and on the flats by the sharpies trolling fluke rigs. The Kuzak Bros. had over 40 fluke, Bruno and Walter had better than 45 all keepers. There is some blackfish starting up at the Loop and Meadowbrook Bridges. There are also a lot of sea bass and sand porgies in Reynolds Channel near buoy 17. In the channel there are small snappers but the creeks have bigger ones. The blueclaw crabs are being caught at a decent rate and in Middle Bay they are very big. As far as striped bass are concerned Ed says "whats that"

The Marie III charterboat reports that on Saturday trolling in 45 feet of water a little east of the inlet, they took 30 bluefish from 3 to 5 pounds. Three wire lines with tubes and two top lines with feathers all scored. They fluked in the afternoon and got 65 keepers in the same area along with a 6 pounder off of a wreck. On Sunday they fluked for a large charter at both the inlet and on wrecks. The fluking was a little slower but they had good catches of sea bass and porgies mixed in. This was the first time since the recent hurricane that the local wrecks were holding fish at all.

Frank Bindewald of New Jersey caught this 20 lb. 2 oz. fluke aboard the Capt. Joseph II out of Captree. The fish took a killie and squid combo and was 37 inches long and 18 ½ inches wide.

CAPTREE

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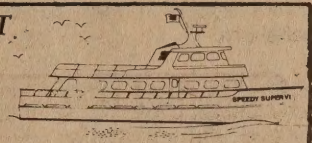

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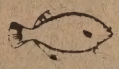

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ISLAND PARK

Beckmans Tackle in Lynnbrook said the fluke fishing has slowed somewhat. Snappers are excellent in most places and are of good size. Crab fishing has been fantastic in both Woodmere and Oceanside areas. Charlie says for the snappers try a snapper spinner combo which they have. Three striped bass between 4 and 7½ lbs. were taken from the surf on Friday. These were taken on clam bellies which seems to be the most consistent producer of striped bass.

Captain Ciem of the **Commodore** reports that he found good fluke in the Sandy Hook area, Ambrose Channel with some five and six pounders every day. Sunday's high hook was 10 keepers with another angler taking 9. The fish appear to be schooling now. All hands had at least 5 fish per. Action was patchy earlier in the week. Lots of blue claw crabs in the bays and back creeks and fluke in the bay. Hand sized porgies from the banks and the Magnolia Avenue pier with weakfish off the piers with snapper baits.

LONG BEACH

Tom at **Long Beach Sports Marina** says there was more fluke this weekend at Duck Point and Cedarhurst Yacht Club. They were caught on killies and squid and many boats had keepers up to 3 lb.s and better. At the Atlantic Beach bridge the blackfish are starting to show.

Capt. John Glaser of the charterboat **Skipper** had pretty good catches of 4 to 6 lb. bluefish this past weekend. These fish range between 4 and 6 lbs. and were caught at Sea Bright inside of the buoy SR.these were caught both while at anchor or drifting with smelts being the best bait. On Saturday the Knights of Columbus of Long Beach, headed by Chuck Connelly, had approximately 30 blues.

JAMAICA BAY

Noehren's Fishing Station said there are lots of sand porgies at the North Channel Bridge. Both the North and South Channel bridges have had small blues all summer. These fish are best caught at night and they come and go at odd times. Crabs are being taken in traps and also on the poles. Fluke fishing remains fair at the Marine Parkway Bridge. Snappers of course are throughout the area.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Bay End Dock reports pretty fair fluke fishing at the Riis Park. There were a good showing of weaks with one of 11 lbs. mostly at Nortons Point with the big blues. Howard Winograd had an 11 lb. weakfish and a 15 lb. bluefish both of which were taken at Nortons on a red Bingle Lancer. Jamaica Bay has lots of sand porgies and lafayettes. Some striped bass had been trolled at Breezy Point Jetty while clam chummers took some at the Marine Parkway Bridge. These fish are mostly 3 to 5 lbs. and although it is a slow pick you can be kept busy.

Sal, Jr. at **Stella Maris** reports very good bluefishing at the Atlantic Highlands and Sea Bright. These fish are chummed up with bunker and are taking smelts or butterfish bait. Some weakfish are mixed with these blues at the Highlands. Blues and weaks are mixed at Nortons Point around to Manhattan Beach. The Jamaica Bay has lafayettes and lots of porgies. Fluke fishing has been fair to good in the ocean at Riis Park and off New Jersey.

Pilot II reports lots of porgies off the Jersey shore with Rockaways producing sea bass and blackfish.

Captain Dom reports nice porgies at Seabright. These fish are not on the bottom, they are mid water about 10 feet down says Dom. Sea bass and blackfish are filling in on the bottom. Quantities are very good. Wednesday says Dom

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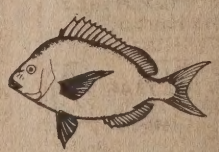

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was great with some porgies up to 2 pounds and most every one getting 7 or 8 of these humpbacks. Friday was good off Seabright, with sea bass a steady thing along with the porgies and blacks. "We caught them good," says Dom.

Captain Jim on the **Amberjack IV** says the bluefishing has picked up since Friday night at Seabright with over 200 fish taken on bananas and jigs. Saturday was the same basic story. These fish are big, up to 12 pounds, around Seaside New Jersey. On Saturday night, they got fish but not as many as Friday night. Sunday the boat also scored well off Seaside.

The **Flamingo II** reports that they had several very good days jigging bluefish with a couple of tough days in between. Good catches of weakfish were in with the blues, on A-27 jigs. This has been

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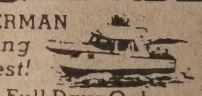

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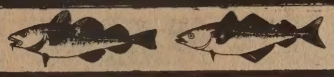

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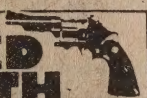

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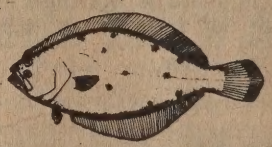

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Buzz Kleber, Ed Kleber, Pat O'Connor and Richie Chin with their catch of blues aboard the Striper Hawk. Subscriber Club Photo.

Thomas Schwaner of Garden City displays 6 plus pound fluke taken on Wednesday aboard Freeport's Blue Fin II.

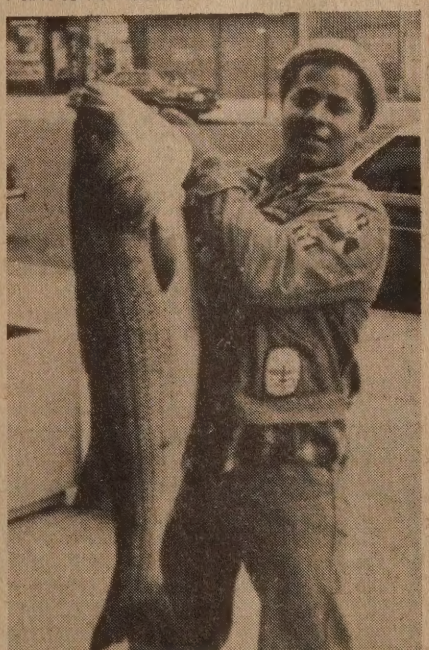
along the beaches of Long Island, Jersey, and New York Harbor, mainly inshore. Walter says that the schools are roaming and unpredictable. These are small to medium blues. The weaks are medium to large with 10 pound weaks not uncommon. Over the weekend, chumming produced and the picture could really change to a dynamite season any day now. There are good indications of this at Seabright, where the fish are responding more strongly now to chum and bait. Some bass have even been mixed in these catches. On Sunday over 300 fish came over the rail consisting of blues and weaks, with some men having over 20 fish. Good indications of bonita, albies and tuna. Don't give up on the blues, gentlemen as this could be a tremendous fall. The best time of year is just before us

Captain Nick on the **Blue Sea II** reports action on the blues has been picking up considerably at Seabright on chum and bait with two to six choppers per man. Fourteen fish was high hook on Sunday. Jigging was the order of the day on Friday, but they switched to bait on Saturday. Bonita and albies were in the chum slick. On Sunday blues and albacore came over the rail. It's good fishing, says Nick, fish ranging from 3 to 10 pounds. The blues appear to be settling in as all of the boats spread out over the Seabright area were getting fish.

Captain Butch on the open boat **Zephyr** reports that Wednesday was very good on large porgies, while Thursday saw a lot of sea bass and blacks come over the rail. The porgies being caught are up to 2 pounds but these big fish are spooky and when they are brought up they are ice cold. Porgies are being caught every day. Blackfish are ranging up to 6 pounds, and those that know how to fish them with clam are having good catches. The porgy fishing has definitely taken a turn for the better. All of this action is along the Shrewsbury Rocks.

STATEN ISLAND

Penny Beach still has good striped bass action on worm according to **Santos Sport Shop**. This action also occurs at the Old Gypsum Plant and at Sailors Snug Harbor. This is all school bass on worms. Lafayettes are so prolific now that some striped bass and blue fishermen on cursing them for stealing worm bait. These lafayettes can be taken in most of the back bays from the beaches and further out. Snapper fishing is very good and are getting bigger.they are taken on spearing and shiny lures. Big blues are hot and heavy at South Beach on cut bait or swimmers or poppers. These 9 to 13 lb. fish are taken in a half to one hour action period. This is on the last of the outgoing tide and at dead low. Fluke fishing is slowing but nice size fish are still being taken. The Triangle area mussel bed has school stripers of 3 to 10 lbs. that are being taken while drifting worms or trolled with a single bucktail. An occasional weak also is taken. Small 2 to 4 lb. bluefish are being trolled with short surgical tubes from Great Kills Park to Annadale.



Charles Forester caught this 35 lb. bass aboard the Jonny K out of Sheepshead Bay using an umbrella rig off Sandy Hook. Subscriber Club Photo.

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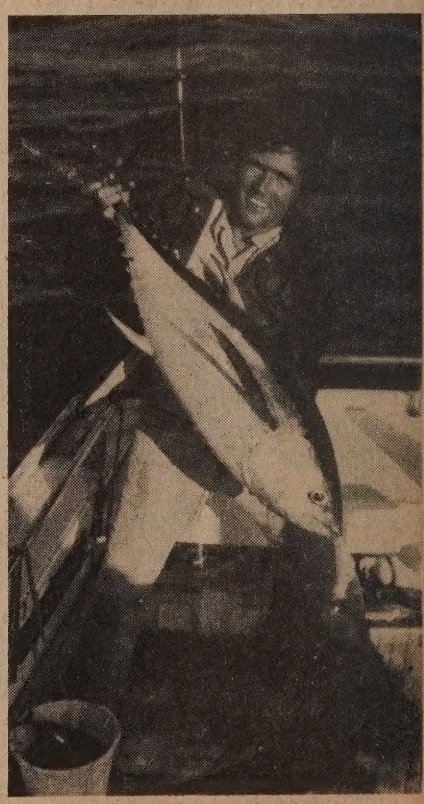

Capt. Joe Martinek of the Rum 'N Coke showing one of the yellow fin tuna caught 40 mi. off of Moriches.

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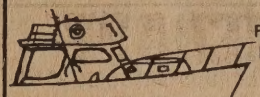

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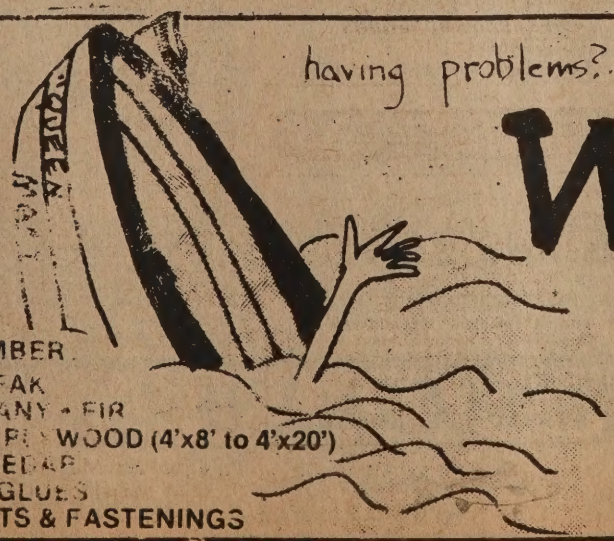

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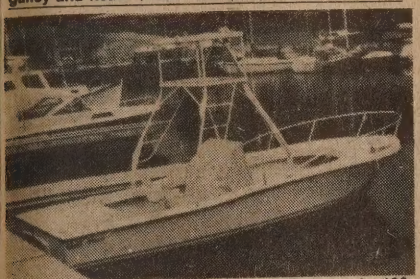

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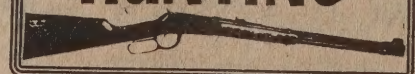

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

ORIENT POINT

Orient By the Sea Marina repor striped bass fishing was really good o the weekend. This fishing is in the gu using live eels on the bottom. Fish size range from 10 to 15 lbs. with just a fe small 6 to 8 lb. blues mixed. Porgies ar good at Plum Island and blackfish ther are even better.

GREENPORT

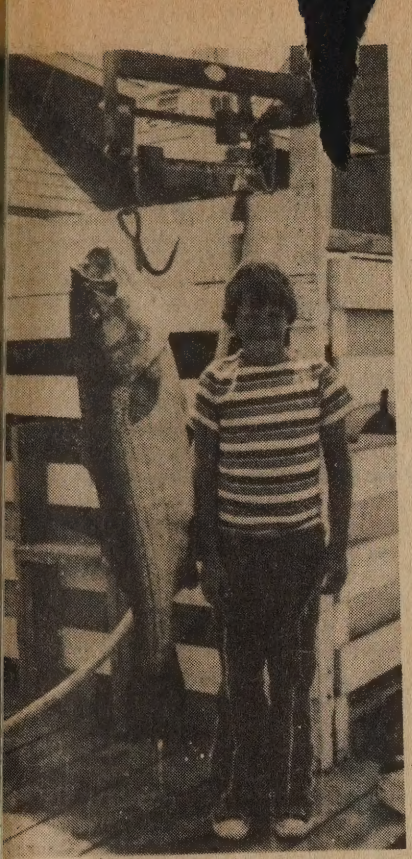
Art White reports the **Wilhelric** i loading up on porgies out at Gardiner' while the **Brand X** are starting on th blues.

Art White's Bait Shop reports ver good porgy and fluke fishing east o Gardiner's. Good blackfishing is to b had at both Plum and GARDINER'S Island. Weakfish of 4 to 8 lbs. have bee taken on squid off the Greenport Jetty Along the Sound Shore there is blackfish and porgies to be had.

Dave Greene of the **Pooka V** said tha on Saturday they had the Dew Drop Fishing Club of Brooklyn out. Excellen porgy fishing was had by them at the Green Hills. On Sunday the Center Fishing Club of Hicksville had a good fluke fishing spree of 40 keepers before they went porgy fishing.

SOUTHOLD

Peter at **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** reports on Friday was the beginning of good catches of weaks that continued through the weekend. Costa Smiris of Washington Hts. went porgy fishing off the Greenport Jetty. He took 5 weaks of 5 to 9 lbs. and lost as many because he had no net. He come back disappointed because he felt he should of had a better catch of porgies then what he had. He should have brought a net and concentrated on the weak fish. These were taken over the weekend at the Greenport Jetty Channel consistently until the boat traffic picked up. There are sand porgies of ¾ to a 1lb. all over the bay. They are at both sides of South Ferry but you need not go as far as buoy 16 and 17 have plenty. At Orient Point fluke fishing has slowed since the storm but other fishing is very good. there are big porgies of 2 lb. and better and black fishing has picked up considerably. Mulford Point and East Marion have many 3 to 4 lb. blacks being taken on fiddler crabs. Larger fish of 6 to 9 lbs. have been taken on green crabs. Pete suggests that because of the strong



Patrick Hanley with his first bass, a 48 pounder he caught on a live bunker. Along with the bass patrick caught 12 lb. bass and a blue. The fish were taken aboard the "Gotcha" out of Orient by the Sea Marina.

ides at these places that you bring sinkers of 6 or 8 ozs. in order to hold bottom.

NEW SUFFOLK

This weekend was terrific for weaks and porgies according to **Captain Marty's Fishing Station**. The fishing has seemed to have gotten better since the storm. Fishing has been good at Cows Neck, buoys 32 and 35 as well as Rose grove. On Saturday there was very good weak fishing in Cutchogue Harbor usin squid and worm.

JAMESPORT

All the porgies you want, said Frank at **Jamesport Bait & Tackle**. Weakfish are great at Robbins Island and Rose's Grove using Salty Dogs and squid.some blues were taken in the sound during the week on strictly blue umbrella rigs. These fish went up to 15 pounds but have since disappeared.

ROCKY POINT

Rocky Point Fish Stop reports lots of fun fishing for snappers and porgies. Fluke has slowed and the blues are still a question mark.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Ralph's Fishing Station reports porgy and black fishing has picked up. These fish are about a mile off shore out of the harbor. A few blues and weaks have been picked up near Sound Beach, Miller Place or buoy 9. These have been trolled or taken on bunker. Just a few fluke have come in this past week.

PORT JEFFERSON

The**Anglers Den** in Selden reports pretty good blue fishing in Port Jeff Harbor. These fish go to 13 lbs. and are taken in the very early morning on live bunker. Umbrella rigs trolled deep by buoy 11 or the Middle Ground have also taken blues. Porgy fishing has picked up at Oldfield Point and at Mt. Sinai. Some of these go to 2 lbs. Blackfishing has taken an upswing about 2 miles out of Mt. Sinai near the lobster pots. A 6 lb. 12 oz. black was weighed in for the contest.

The **Betty W** reports the porgy run remains good with good quantities and many jumbos. Blacks are mixed with these fish and are taking the pool. Captain Bill stevens is doing a good job for the charters on the **Janet C.** They are fishing Oldfield Point for porgies and blacks and are cleaning up. Some part of the day is being devoted to fluke fishing this same area and some fish to 4 and 5 lbs. have been taken.

HUNTINGTON

George at **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** chewed out this reporter for not getting the following information to the anglers sooner. Eatons Neck rips for more than a week now has been having bonanza fishing on striped bass. Clam bellies along with lead core line are the things to use. Many catches in excess of 20 per boat have been had all along. These fish averaged 4 to 7 pounds with some going as low as three and as high as sixteen. This fishing slows primarily due to ordinary boat traffic or other anglers not properly positioning themselves. Worm trolling for striped bass can be done off Marshall Field if you can get through the snappers. These fish run 2 to 3 pounds. Big porgies of 1 and 2 pounds have been taken in good quantities at buoy 13 while at Sand City there are smaller porgies and snappers. Good catches of blackfish have been made at buoy 13 off Eaton's Neck and at the East Bar there also. Fiddlers and green crabs are the best bait and are available at **Four Winds Bait and Tackle.** East of 11B and down deep bluefish have been taken on big Sekora tubes and umbrella rigs. A few also have been taken on bait between 13 and 11B. Fish mackerel or bunker on the bottom.

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle reports a good amount of striped bass being taken in the rip at Eaton's Neck on clam chum. These fish are from 5 to 12 pounds. Some blues were taken at 11B on wire line or bunker chum. Several of these fish made the LIF Skillful Angler Award as they were over 10 pounds. Snappers are still strong in size and are being taken on bait or shiny lures. Mostly small porgies inside of Sand City.

Rick Hawkins does it again! Huntingtn striped bass sharpie Rick Hawkins should get the north shore boys hunting bass again. Last week he corraled 14 bass in the 2-4 pound range trolling worms off Marshall Field during midday. Then he headed out to the Eatons's Neck Rips and mohawked the bass with clam chum. 170 pounds of bass from 6 to 16 pounds fell for the clam bellies.

GLEN COVE

Andy at **Glen Cove Sports Shop** reports blues of 3 to 5 pounds being trolled on wire line with tubes or spoons. These fish have moved from "the B buoy" to Mattinecock. Occasionally at dusk these fish show up on the surface and are good fishing with light tackle using poppers. Inside the harbor are bluefish being taken on chunk bait as well as live bunker. Two of these fish were personally seen by Andy and they ran approximately 18 pounds a piece. A showing of tinker mackerel was made at Maxwells this past week. A few large striped bass have been taken on tubes while bluefishing.

PORT WASHINGTON

Moreland's Bait and Tackle reports plenty of snappers and sand porgies to keep people busy. Blues are mostly spotty and Hempstead Harbor, Execution Rocks or Throggs Neck are your best bets. Snappers make worm trolling for striped bass a no-wind proposition and as far as plugs are concerned all that has been gotten is a few rises and no catches.

CITY ISLAND

John's Gun and Tackle in the Bronx says that porgies are all over and good catches are being had. Snappers are also great fun and are of eating size now. Blues are spotty and although they show up on the fish finder they sometimes are difficult to catch. Trolling somewhat offshore has produced fair catches while bait fishing in the deeper waters has done about the same. John says he will soon be receiving the material that will allow him to become a weigh-in station for the LIF Skillful Angler Award.

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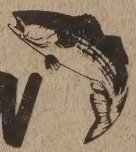

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